MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 NOVEMBER 1980

American Hostages

Answering questions at a press conference reported by Tehran radio's English service, Majlis Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani said the Majlis has declared its view on the hostage issue and the government will act in accordance with this. Rafsanjani added that an Algerian-Iranian joint committee is currently studying the reply made by the U.S. Government as well as the conditions laid down by the Majlis. He urged the United States to "accept the fact" that it can no longer use the issue as a "pretext" for its "imperialist plan." In an interview with Budapest radio, the ayatollah of Qom, Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, said the students have "already handed the hostages over to the government" and are consequently no longer responsible for their fate. Referring to the possibility that the U.S. Government might not accept all the Majlis conditions, Montazeri said "in this event the hostages will face the courts."

Iran Domestic Affairs

Khomeyni Speeches, Health--In a 17 November speech to a gathering from Qom described by Tehran radio as "mainly bazaar tradesmen and merchants," Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni denounced "any clergyman who acts against the clerical trend" as "worse than a Savakist," and he added that there is a "plot" afoot aimed at "removing the clergy" from the political arena. Hoping that his advice might be remembered "after I am gone," the ayatollah said any person or organization arguing for the removal of the clergy should be "isolated." In another speech on the same day to the police academy, reported by Tehran radio, Khomeyni apologized for not being able to speak at length owing to advice from his doctors.

'Fifth Column' Charges--An unattributed commentary on Tehran radio supported Khomeyni's previous calls for unity and claimed that a "fifth column, composed of the hypocrites and the feda'iyan had appeared in the "guise of deviant newspapers and well-known and liberal elements," using "famous personalities" as its "tool." In a 17 November statement carried by Tehran radio, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr also appealed for unity and described "those who show disrespect to the lofty status of the clerics" as a "fifth column."

Arrest Warrant for Mojahedin Leaders--AFP, citing an ETTELA'AT REPORT, reported that Tehran's revolutionary Islamic tribunal issued a warrant for the arrest of all the leading Mojahedin People's Party leaders on charges related to the conviction on 15 November of Mohammad Reza Sa'adati on charges of spying for the USSR.

Iranian Foreign Affairs

Relations With USSR--In an interview with KEYHAN, Iran's ambassador to the Soviet Union, Dr Mohammed Mokri, said Iran is grateful for the USSR's "neutral stance" in the war but needs to be "assured in practice that the Soviet Government is not providing Iraq with arms."

Kuwait Incident--In a 17 November statement carried by Tehran radio in response to Kuwaiti protests over alleged Iranian violations of Kuwait's airspace, the Foreign Ministry said Iranian policy is not based on aggression and the Iranian Government "has never entertained nor will it ever entertain any greedy designs against the neighboring territory, including Kuwait."

Rafsanjani Visit--In a press conference reported by Tehran radio's English service before his trip to Algeria, Libya and Syria, Majlis Speaker Rafsanjani said Iran should establish a "coordinated policy with our brother countries." Algiers radio reported Rafsanjani's arrival in Algeria on 17 November.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iranian Warning--A 17 November statement by the Iranian Foreign Ministry, reported by Tehran radio, warned Iraq against using "deadly chemical weapons and incendiary bombs" against both civilian and military personnel. Asserting that Iran is aware of Iraqi preparations for using "chemical, germ and biological weapons," the statement warned "the vigilant conscience of the nations of the world" about the matter and called on the United Nations and the International Red Cross to "strongly reprimand" the Iraqi regime. It added that while Iran has never used "un-Islamic methods" and has never attacked non-military or nonstrategic targets in its war with Iraq, Iran will not remain indifferent to "these savage acts."

Montazeri on the Army--In his interview with Budapest radio, Ayatollah Montazeri said that for "about 6 months" before the Iraqi attack on Iran, intelligence sources indicated that "something was being prepared against us" because reports showed a "regrouping" of Iraqi military forces. Asked whether he trusted army officers who were in the army during the shah's regime, the ayatollah gave neither an affirmative nor a negative reply but said "we more or less reorganized the army."

Military Situation--In the fighting around Susangerd, Tehran radio reported the Iranian Airborne Division and other reinforcements have launched a fierce counterattack on the Iraqi forces in and around the city. The radio said the counterattack drove the Iraqis out of the city and they are now "on the brink of annihilation." An Iranian Joint Staff communique, carried by Tehran radio, claimed that Iranian forces have killed more than 200 Iraqis. An Iraqi General Command communique, carried by Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses, said Iraqi Air Force planes and helicopters had hit Iranian troop concentrations around Susangerd, inflicting "heavy losses." On the other fronts, Tehran radio reported residential areas in Abadan and Ahvaz were shelled by Iraqi artillery and said Iranian forces launched attacks on Iraqi armored concentrations northeast of the Bahmanshir River. Another Iranian Joint Staff communique, carried by Tehran radio, said the Iranian Air Force has struck at targets near Sulaymaniyah, Umm Qasr and Al-Faw in Iraq as well as supporting the Iranian counterattack at Susangerd.

Iraq

In comments made at a Paris reception reported by the Paris newspaper AL-MUSTAQBAL on 15 November, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz said Ronald Reagan's election was a good sign because Iraq will be able to predict what he intends to do. He said President-elect Reagan, who appears to be strong-willed man, will be much better than the "weak and vacillating" President Carter, who never respected Arab rights.

Declaring that Iraq has enough arms to continue the war for a long time, 'Aziz said Iranian media have deprecated the country's military capabilities but the Iraqi forces have proved them wrong. He noted the war has united various factions in Iran but said fragmentation will occur once the people realize the promises made by the Islamic revolution have not been fulfilled. 'Aziz also cited differences in the Iranian leadership which would aid this fragmentation. Iran is not suffering any shortage of spare parts, 'Aziz added, because it is receiving them from the Netherlands, the DPRK, Turkey and Pakistan, among others.

Tunisia

At a press conference on 17 November, reported by Tunis radio, a Foreign Ministry official claimed that a Tunisian Army patrol fired on a Libyan police vehicle that had intruded into Tunisia near Sidi at-Tawi and drove it back across the border. The official expressed concern at the frequency of such incidents and said the Libyan charge d'affaires will be summoned to hear Tunisia's position on this matter. He also expressed concerned at the large Libyan buildup near the border, calling it "rather alarming."

Afghanistan

Kabul radio reported textually the series of resolutions adopted on 11 November by the Fourth Plenum of the PDPA Central Committee after the visit of General Secretary Babrak Karmal to the Soviet Union. The PDPA central committee expressed its pleasure with Karmal's visit and his talks with the Soviet leaders, "held in an atmosphere of sincerity, comradely frankness and full understanding." It thanked the Soviet Union for its "disinterested and all-round assistance" to Afghanistan and for the efforts of Soviet soldiers in their "heroic accomplishment of their internationalist duty."

Turning to internal affairs, the Central Committee noted shortcomings among party and government organs in their efforts to improve industrial and agricultural production, with many institutions producing "little work and fewer products," especially in coal and oil extraction. It blamed this situation on "inefficient action" against counter-revolutionary elements, dissension among party members and a weakness in political training, a theme touched on in a speech by Karmal on 13 November to PDPA activists.

One proposal called for the formation of a "fatherland front" and the strengthening of the party organization. Stronger ties with the people must be formed, it said, and every full and candidate member must improve his efforts. Party committees should not allow "baseless and illogical" changes among their membership, the Central Committee declared, warning that "resolute investigations" would be conducted of any full or candidate party members who fail to follow party guidelines.

The Central Committee also called on party and government workers to direct their efforts toward improving the economy and to ensure the provision of adequate food supplies. It urged more attention to ideological activities to explain the party's position and "maximum use" of the country's media for propaganda work.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT DENIES ASKING FOR POSTPONEMENT OF ARAB SUMMIT

LD180948 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, categorically denied the organization has asked for a postponement of the forthcoming Arab summit conference to be held in Amman.

In a statement published today by AL-JAZIRAH, 'Arafat said the organization will continue its contacts with Arab officials to reach a unified Arab stand. This stems from its belief in the importance of Arab solidarity at this moment, especially to confront the Camp David plots and the so-called self-rule and the attempts to impose these on the Palestinian people.

'Arafat said the present circumstances are not just linked to the Arab nation but to the whole region. He described these circumstances as serious and difficult, and demanded further Arab solidarity and cohesion.

'ARAFAT COMMENTS ON REAGAN'S ELECTION, GULF WAR

NC150747 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0645 GMT 15 Nov 80

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has said that the Gulf war between Iraq and Iran is an economic massacre for the Middle Eastern area. He expressed the hope that the mission the nonaligned movement is undertaking to halt the fighting between the two combating member states will succeed.

In an exclusive interview with the newspapers AL-BAYRAQ and (LA REVUE DU LIBAN) published today, Abu 'Ammar said that he has never lost hope that the committee formed from the nonaligned coordination bureau will attain encouraging results to solve the Iraqi-Iranian conflict.

In this context, Brother Abu 'Ammar referred to statements made to him personally by the Iraqi president, Saddam Husayn, and the Iranian president, Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, that the only one who will reap the fruits of this war is the United States. He also referred to the eagerness he felt from both sides to reach a solution that will end the war.

Commenting on the results of the U.S. elections and Reagan's triumph as U.S. president, he said: We in the Palestinian revolution are not concerned whether Carter goes or Reagan comes. He added: As far as we are concerned, we deal with an institution called the American imperialist institution--an institution that has its plan and considerations; and we have a plan and considerations.

'ARAFAT REMARKS ON PLO COOPERATION WITH LEBANESE ARMY

NC161503 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1130 GMT 16 Nov 80

[Text of second installment of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's interview with the chief editor of the Lebanese newspaper AL-BAYRAQ, Milhim Karam, published in AL-BAYRAQ on 15 November]

[Excerpts] Question: It is being asserted that the PLO intends to change its strategies following Reagan's victory and that this has been the reason behind the postponement of the Palestinian National Council's meetings for a full month in anticipation of the U.S. election outcome. Is there any truth to this?

Answer: We give ourselves due respect for being able to comprehend the international game. No country can draw up its policies within the period of 1 or 2 months; this is true for even the smallest country and is even more true when it comes to one of the big powers. Do you think a country like America--which is a big power--can draw up its policy with the coming of this president or the going of that president? It is true that the president plays a role in the U.S. resolutions. However, I can estimate that this role is between 15 percent when it comes to a weak president and 25 percent to a strong and efficient president. The rest is divided among the establishments. We in the Palestinian revolution were not concerned whether Carter went away and Reagan came or whether Carter won and Reagan lost. Speaking for ourselves, I would say that we are dealing with an establishment called the American imperialist establishment which has its own designs and plans. So do we. I want to remind you of something; one day Brzezinski said; bye-bye PLO [last three words in English]. Where is Brzezinski now? I am here and Brzezinski is gone; he was not able to retain his post. Therefore, I say that the postponement of the National Council's meeting stems from the events in the region--events with which the Palestinians resistance was occupied because of the [Israeli] military concentrations in the south and the Israeli escalation there.

Question: The joint command has decided to close down the Palestinian resistance's offices in western Beirut. Does this mean that you agree to the Lebanese Army's entry into these areas?

Answer: The joint command has decided to close down the offices of the Lebanese parties' organizations so that each organization will retain one office only. The Palestinian resistance has no offices outside the camps. As for the army, we are not interfering by specifying the Lebanese Army's authority or its presence. This is their land and we are their guests until we return to our country. The Palestinian people will never forget that the heroic Lebanese people have suffered immensely for hosting us.

Question: It is being claimed that the Palestinian resistance is resisting the Lebanese Army's entry.

Answer: Give me one example of such resistance. Is not the army stationed in the (Henri Shihab) barracks? And is it not present in all the barracks in Sidon, Jazzin and the areas in which the Palestinian resistance is also present? They requested of us that the army enter the south through Kawkaba; we extended our help to them, and the result was that we and the Lebanese Army were subjected to shelling by Israel and Sa'd Haddad. Then they requested us to allow the entry of another force through the coastal area. We extended all facilities to them, and the result was that this contingent was savagely shelled by Sa'd Haddad. More than that, Israel insisted that 56 soldiers of the contingent stationed in the south be evacuated. Israel announced that it would allow the entry of 500 soldiers only. Thus, the Lebanese Army's command was forced to evacuate the soldiers that exceeded the specified number. All the above serves as proof and evidence to the fact that [the allegations that] we are preventing the Lebanese Army's entry are part of the Israeli designs against Lebanon and the Palestinian revolution. As for those who believe that Israel might help them, they are daydreaming. If they believe that Israel might possibly side with them, they are stupid and are committing a crime against Lebanon. Israel only helps itself, and they would not be giving Israel more than what As-Sadat has already given it--that is even the waters of the Nile. But the Israelis have given As-Sadat nothing significant so far in exchange for all of his concessions to them.

Question: It is being claimed that there are sharp differences between Jordan and the PLO and that you are the only leader in the PLO who is insisting on continuing the relations with Jordan. Is there any truth to this; and do you believe that Carter's downfall means the end of the Camp David phase? As for the autonomy in the occupied territories, has this plan failed ultimately or will it assume another shape?

Answer: First, do not forget that I am the leader of the PLO and that I was elected by the Palestinian National Council. I have, therefore, to coordinate this Council's decisions. The Council has taken a decision to hold a dialogue with Jordan. The Concil has also taken a decision to agree on [the establishment of] the joint Palestinian-Jordanian committee. We are a democratic people; any person can speak his mind. This is not a weakness but, in my opinion, an indication of strength. Anyone can criticize the leadership. A leadership that cannot tolerate criticism is a weak one. Our relations with Jordan are good and my relations with King Husayn are proceeding as usual. As for Carter's downfall and whether this spells the downfall of Camp David, I reiterate that precedents are the main thing and that a partial change might be made in the agreement.

Question: It is being asserted that there are sharp differences with Syria on account of the internment of some of the Palestinian leaders who are accused of aiding the Muslim Brotherhood. These include a member of the movement's national council, namely, the movement's financial official (Abu Usamah). It is also being claimed that Syria is refusing any mediation aimed at releasing him and that he is under the threat of execution. What is your reply?

Answer: This is not true, not true at all. The internment of any person has no relation to what we are talking about. Our relations with Syria are related to strategy and are strong and tenacious.

Question: Do you believe that Begin's downfall in the forthcoming elections might change the arrogant Israeli mentality? And what are you expecting from the Israeli leftists?

Answer: I make no distinction between Begin's mentality and the Israeli Labor Party's mentality, for, whereas Begin is hitting me with an iron fist, the Labor Party is also hitting me with an iron fist--albeit a fist covered with a silken glove. So, what is the difference? Nothing will change unless a change occurs in the Arab stance--a change that will lead it to face the situation in a radical manner and that will cause the Arab nation to throw its weight for the sake of the liberation battle--militarily, economically and in terms of manpower. As for the Israeli leftists: The Palestinian National Council has issued a resolution pertaining to holding a dialogue with the democratic and progressive forces inside and outside Israel. We are proud about taking this resolution with conviction and will implement it.

Question: The movement which you are leading is simultaneously a national movement and a patriotic movement. Some circles are trying to thwart this movement by accusing it of allowing Soviet influence to penetrate into this region. What is your reply to this accusation?

Answer: This is one of those ridiculous Zionist lies. Do not forget that Palestine means Jerusalem. There are two places that are removed from ideological influences, namely, Mecca and Jerusalem as well as the Vatican. As for us, we are proud of our friendship with the Soviet Union because the Soviet Union is a friend which is supporting our peoples' legitimate rights and clearly asserting our right to return, to determine our fate and establish our independent state.

FATAH'S AL-HASAN DISCUSSES POSSIBILITY OF DIALOGUE WITH U.S.

LD171449 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 8 Nov 80 p 15

[Interview granted by Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan to 'Abdallah Hamdan--date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Do you believe that there is some possibility of conducting a dialogue of reason with the United States or has the U.S. position become the very antithesis of the aspirations of the Palestinian people in particular and of the Arabs in general, and in what way do you think you can have dealings with the United States?

[Answer] Relations in international politics are based on interests, and on profit and loss. Consequently, there is no such thing as dialogue of reason with the United States or with any other government that proceeds from clear and specific material interests and from its own self-centered policy. Therefore, the only language suitable in international politics is the language of interests and not of reason or of madness.

Israel's presence in the heart of the Arab world which is the center of the Middle East, which constitutes the world's energy and communications hub, and which consequently is never absent from the international political scene, means that Israel's existence is connected with colonialist objectives sought in the Middle East. Therefore, Israel represents the source of loss and profit in international politics within the strategy of the colonialist powers led by the U.S. Government.

Unless Israel becomes a loss-making burden for these powers, the world colonialist stand under U.S. leadership will remain on the side of its own interests which Israel's existence represents while the aspirations of the Palestinian people or of other peoples will be totally ignored.

To sum up, if the Arab nation is unable to adopt a unified strategy and stance and pursue a common strategic action in support of such a stance that would make the United States lose out because of its support for Israel, then there is no hope for change in the U.S. attitude. Of course, if this Arab action directed at the U.S. Government and the Western governments in general is coupled with systematic political propaganda beamed at Western public opinion in order to generate pressure upon the [Western] governments and aimed at helping the Arab governments, then the change would be faster.

[Question] The course of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue is a bone of contention within the PLO. What is your opinion in the dialogue, who benefits from it, and what are its effects upon Palestinian national unity?

[Answer] In my view the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue is a strategic necessity for three reasons:

The geographical location.

The nature of the demographical structure.

The importance of the Jordanian Government for the Western world which hopes that this government might be instrumental in carrying out its plans regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict.

This means that dialogue is indispensable as a principle because if it leads to positive results then the need for it is strategic. As for the course of the dialogue and whether or not it is for the public good, it depends not only on the parties to the dialogue and their ability to achieve the desired objectives, but also on the extent of the common ground possessed by the parties involved in it at a particular political stage because each side has certain objectives at a particular stage which might lead to increasing or decreasing the area of common ground between the parties in the dialogue. Therefore, if the course of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue does not tend to serve the interest of the Palestinian cause in the conflict with the enemy, it would be due to the failure or inability to conduct a correct dialogue or to understand what is required from the dialogue at this stage.

At the Baghdad summit the Camp David agreements and the autonomy conspiracy were rejected and it was decided to oppose them. Jordan, just like the PLO, supported this strategy. Resisting the proposed autonomy also requires the economic, militant, and cultural steadfastness of our people at home. This requires many things, including the necessary funds to make such steadfastness possible. The summit allocated funds for this purpose. This has created a new situation between the Palestinian revolution and the Jordanian Government; it has created a broad joint basis for aborting Camp David and the autonomy plans, for seeking to support our people's steadfastness, for and preventing Jordan from succumbing to the U.S.-Egyptian-Israeli desire for Jordan to join the Camp David march.

It is known that Jordan rejected Camp David and autonomy. Regardless of the reasons for this rejection, higher interests call for maintaining this position, this new situation, having produced to broad common grounds, made the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue a necessity in the light of the Baghdad resolutions. Since this dialogue must create a positive and amicable atmosphere in Jordanian-Palestinian relations it inevitably follows that, in addition to this dialogue, there should be another dialogue on bilateral relations relating to Jordan's attitude to the Palestinian citizen, his passport, and his daily life. But the latter dialogue involves attitudes in which the area of agreement is much less than in the dialogue dealing with the first subject which is of a definite political character and which affects the entire issue at this stage. This means that the dialogue [on political issues] will be affected positively or negatively by the personal attitudes of those conducting it and their ability to broaden the issues on which agreement is possible. I believe that there have been considerable achievements in this regard. It is wrong to imagine that through dialogue we can achieve all that we want. It is also very wrong to think at this stage of anything other than dialogue.

[Question] It is being said that the PLO's relations with the moderate Arab countries are hindering the development of its relations with the Soviet Union. Do you believe that this is correct?

[Answer] This is absolutely wrong and contrary to truth and reality, particularly since our relations are not relations of subservience to anybody. Many of the so-called Arab progressives are unfair to the Soviet Union by imagining that it adopts such stands in this regard.

The discussions that constantly take place between us and the Soviets underline, in the final analysis, the need to develop our relations with any power in the world in the interests of our objectives. Also it must be pointed out that the development of our relations with the Soviets has nothing to do with our Arab relations; rather, it is based on the interest of the Arab position in the Arab-Israeli conflict, on the developments of international politics, and the policy of international detente.

[Question] Camp David's proponents greeted the Syrian-Soviet treaty with attacks and with slander. Do you believe that the treaty is capable of halting the U.S. advance or does it need something else in order to achieve this objective?

[Answer] The only force capable of halting the course of the U.S. advance, whether via Camp David train or something else, is the Arab stand and not treaties with any country however friendly it may be. It is our own stand that, through firmness, clarity, and adherence to the higher interests of the Arab nation and of the conflict with the Zionist enemy, determines the failure or success of the forces that are hostile to us as Arabs and Palestinians. As for alliances, they always constitute auxiliary elements, particularly if they are with friends and not linked to collective ideological affiliations.

[Question] Do you believe that the convening of the forthcoming Arab summit in Amman in the present Arab circumstances would achieve any positive results with regard to total confrontation of the Camp David conspiracy or to mobilizing Arab resources to meet future challenges?

[Answer] I do not think so, because the Arab mentality so far sticks to a strategic stand but shuns strategic action. In view of the extent of Arab differences the summit would achieve an astonishing success if it can restore something called "Arab Solidarity" in view of our well-known rule: "If disagreement occurs we cannot tolerate it so we seek agreement and if agreement is achieved we cannot tolerate so we seek to disagree."

KUWAIT

CABINET DECIDES TO LODGE NEW PROTEST WITH IRAN

LD171553 Kuwait KUNA in English 1013 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 17 Nov (KUNA)--Kuwait decided Monday to lodge a fresh protest with Iran against the violation of Kuwaiti airspace and rocketing of the northern frontier post of Al-'Abdali. State Minister for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-Aziz Husayn said the Foreign Ministry will summon the Iranian ambassador to deliver the protest note to him and will also summon the ambassadors of Arab and Muslim states to inform them of the details of the incident. Ambassadors of non-aligned nations will likewise to invited [words indistinct] of the attack. The decision was taken at a Cabinet meeting this morning held under the chairmanship of Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah. The meeting was a resumption of yesterday's weekly Cabinet session. [Words indistinct] protest, Minister Hysayn said the Cabinet has asked the concerned authorities to dispatch memos on the two incidents to the Arab League secretary-general, the Islamic Conference secretary general, the U.N. secretary-general and the headquarters of the non-aligned countries.

Foreign Ministry Position

LD181046 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Text] Answering a question by KUNA concerning the statement issued by the Iranian Foreign Ministry broadcast by Tehran radio last night on the stand of the Iranian Government, an official source at the Foreign Ministry says that Kuwait submitted two official protests to the Iranian Government via its ambassador in Kuwait. They concern the violation by Iranian Air Force of Kuwaiti airspace and the strafing of the Al-'Abdali area in northern Kuwait. The Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry is still awaiting an official reply from the Iranian Government.

SAUDI ARABIA

REPORTAGE ON CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER'S 15-17 NOV VISIT

LD151052 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0955 GMT 15 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 15 Nov (SPA)--The Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau this morning arrived in Riyadh from Jidda. He was welcomed at the airport by Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, 2nd Deputy Prime Minister and commander of the National Gua-rd Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and the Governor of the Riyadh District Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

16 Nov Meeting

LD160940 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0836 GMT 16 Nov 80

[Text] Riyadh, 16 Nov (SPA)--His Royal Highness Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, met this morning with Pierre Trudeau, Canadian prime minister, who is currently visiting the kingdom. During the meeting bilateral relations were discussed.

Joint Statement

LD172216 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1550 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text of Saudi-Canadian joint statement issued at conclusion of visit to Saudi Arabia by Canadian Prime Minister Pierre-Elliot Trudeau and accompanying delegation]

[Text] In response to the invitation of His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, crown prince and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, Mr Pierre-Elliott Trudeau, Canada's prime minister, paid an official visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 15 to 17 November 1980, accompanied by a delegation of senior officials.

His excellency and the accompanying delegation were accorded every hospitality and welcome, reflecting the growing links of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

The prime minister called on his majesty the king and held talks with His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz which dealt with bilateral relations, international issues of joint interest.

On the Saudi side these talks were attended by: the second deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard, His Royal Highness Prince Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; the minister of petroleum and mineral resources, His Excellency Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani; the minister of finance and national economy, His Excellency Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl; the minister of planning, His Excellency Hisham Nazir; the foreign under secretary for political affairs, Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri; Ambassador Ma'mun Khayri al-Qabbani, head of the Western Department at the Foreign Ministry; and by the adviser at the Economic Department of the Foreign Ministry, 'Abd al-Latif Maymani.

On the Canadian side the talks were attended by: the Canadian ambassador to the kingdom, Mr. William Jenkins [as received]; the chief adviser to the prime minister, Mr. James Coutts; the assistant foreign under secretary, Michael Shenston; the assistant foreign under secretary, Lawrence Smith; the assistant government secretary, Mr. Robert Fowler; the assistant executive to the prime minister, Edward Jones; the press secretary to the prime minister, Patrick Gussaj [as received]; the minister plenipotentiary, adviser at the Canadian Embassy at Jidda, Mr David McRacken.

The two sides expressed their pleasure and satisfaction with the increasing growth in bilateral relations, especially since these relations began only a few years ago. They also expressed their confidence about the future of cooperation between them in various spheres for the good of the two countries and the two peoples and the similarity between the two countries. Their widespread territories, the dispersed populations and the difficult geographical and climatic conditions will help to realize this cooperation.

The two sides reviewed the problems existing in the Middle East and the current international situation as they also discussed international economic matters.

The two sides attached great importance to the need to find just and speedy solutions to two basic issues in the region, the Middle East and Palestine questions. The absence of solutions to these is causing complications for the other issues of the region. They agreed that the nonrealization of a just and comprehensive solution these two constituted a continuing threat to world peace and stability and that the international community has a special and urgent responsibility to find the just and comprehensive solution.

The two sides expressed great concern over the situation in Afghanistan. They strongly condemned the Soviet military aggression which took place in violation of international law and the UN Charter against that nonaligned, Muslim country. The two sides confirmed the necessity of the speedy evacuation of Soviet forces from Afghanistan and respect for the right of the Afghan people to self-determination.

His Excellency Prime Minister Trudeau, who will chair the summit of industrial countries in Canada next summer, expressed keen interest in his consultation with His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz concerning world economic issues.

The two sides devoted great attention to a stable world economy, which requires extreme efforts to control inflation.

Agreement was reached on the necessity of adopting national and international policies in order to develop alternate sources of energy and to encourage preservation of exhaustible natural resources.

They also agreed on the necessity of taking serious, sincere efforts on the part of the international community to realize a new world economic order. To that end the two sides confirmed the need for consolidating and encouraging comprehensive world economic negotiations concerning international economic questions, for which the United Nations is planning at present, and the proposed North-South summit to study world, economic questions which will be held in Mexico.

The Saudi side expressed its appreciation for the constructive role played by Canada in international quarters with the aim of bringing about such objectives. The Canadian side also lauded the role of the kingdom as the largest oil exporter in the world and a great, international financial power, expressing its appreciation for the policies of the kingdom which have contributed to international economic stability.

The two sides expressed their interest in close cooperation and consultation concerning international economic matters, including the domain of economic aid for developing countries via existing national and international establishments.

The two sides noted the importance of the role played by economic relations in the entire pattern of close cooperation between the two countries as well as the success of the joint Canadian-Saudi committee which convened in June in Ottawa. The two sides also noted the growing of trade exchange between the two countries. In this respect the Canadian side expressed interest in participating in the big Saudi economic development. It expressed the desire to increase Canadian initiatives to facilitate the transfer of technology to the kingdom and to training Saudi cadres in the various aspects of technical progress and its applications to expanding and deepening the role of the private sector in the cooperation between them in the economic and technical fields.

His Excellency Prime Minister Trudeau also held talks with His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister; His Excellency Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, the minister of petroleum and mineral resources; His Excellency Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, the minister of finance and national economy; and His Excellency Hisham Nazir, the minister of planning.

His excellency the Canadian prime minister expressed gratitude to His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz for the welcome accorded him and the accompanying delegation during their visit to the kingdom. He extended an invitation to his royal highness to visit Canada. His royal highness accepted the invitation. Its date will be set via diplomatic channels.

Riyadh, 17 November 1980.

17 Nov Departure

LD171614 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1528 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 17 Nov (SPA)--Mr Pierre Trudeau, Canada's prime minister, at 1730 today left Riyadh for Jidda on his way home after a 3-day official visit to Saudi Arabia.

His Royal Highness Fahd ibn 'Abd al'Aziz crown prince and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, headed those who saw Mr Trudeau off at Riyadh airport.

PLO'S YASIR 'ARAFAT VISITS RIYADH 16-17 NOV

LD160840 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0822 GMT 16 Nov 80

[Text] Riyadh, 16 Nov (SPA)--Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, arrived before noon today in Riyadh for a visit to the kingdom.

He was welcomed at the airport by His Royal Highness Amir Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, amir of Riyadh region, and Rafiq an-Natshah, PLO representative in the kingdom, and a number of officials.

Meeting With King

LD161006 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0910 GMT 16 Nov 80

[Text] Riyadh, 16 Nov (SPA)--King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz at 1130 today at the royal palace in Ma'dhar received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who is on a visit to the kingdom.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, 2nd Deputy Prime Minister and Commander in Chief of the National Guards Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and private adviser to the king Dr Rashad Fir'awn.

17 Nov Departure

GF171920 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Riyadh this afternoon at the end of a visit to Saudi Arabia during which he met with King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. 'Arafat was seen off at the airport by the amir of the Riyadh District, Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and the PLO representative in Saudi Arabia, Rafiq an-Natshah.

ARAB LEAGUE'S KLIBI ARRIVES IN JIDDA 16 NOV

LD170803 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1925 GMT 16 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Jidda, 16 Nov (SPA)--Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived in Jidda tonight on a visit to the kingdom.

In a statement to SPA upon his arrival he said that the Arab nation now has a greater need for meetings and consultations. Klibi expressed great optimism about the summit conference which will be held in Amman in the next few days.

Meeting With Khalid

LD171156 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1002 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Riyadh, 17 Nov (SPA)--His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received in his office at the royal cabinet at 1230 today Mr Chedli Klibi, the Arab League secretary general now visiting the kingdom.

The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the crown prince and deputy prime minister; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard; His Highness Dr Rashad Fir-awn, adviser to his majesty the king, and His Highness Shaykh Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, minister of state and a mumber of the Council of Ministers.

UAE

UAE SUPPORTS CONVENING OF SCHEDULED ARAB SUMMIT

NC122042 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1710 GMT 12 Nov 80

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 Nov (ENA)--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah will head the UAE delegation to the meetings of the Arab foreign ministers scheduled to be held in Amman, Jordan, on 20 November.

The delegation will include UAE Ambassador to Tunisia Hamad al-Maqami; Husayn ash-Sha'ali, the deputy director of the Political Department at the Foreign Ministry; 'Ali Mubarak al-Mansuri, the director of the office of the minister [not specified]; Jamail Hassunah ar-Ramhi, the UAE charge d'affairs in Amman and 'Ali al-'Abbudi, the second secretary at the Foreign Ministry. The UAE today confirmed to the Arab League secretariat its agreement on the convening of the forthcoming Arab summit conference in the Jordanian capital on 25 November and the Arab foreign ministers conference preceding it.

YAR

PDRY ENVOY DELIVERS MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT SALIH

JN151319 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Nov 80

[Text] In his office this afternoon brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, received Brother 'Abadallah Ahmad Ghanim, secretary of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council in the southern part of the homeland, who conveyed an oral message from Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and prime minister in the southern part of the homeland. The meeting was attended by Brother Husayn ad-Daf'i, presidential advisor on unity affairs.

Departure Statement

JN161446 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 16 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Brother 'Abdallah Ahmad al-Ghanim, secretary of the Supreme People's Council Presidium in the southern part of the homeland, left San'a' for Aden this morning after a visit to the northern part during which he conveyed an oral message to brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, from his brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers in the southern part of the homeland.

In a statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Brother al-Ghanim said: The meeting with the brother officials in the northern part of the homeland were positive and fruitful and in the interest of both parts of the homeland.

He said that he will convey a reply message from the brother president to his Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad on more coordination and consultations between the leaderships of the two parts in the interest of the homeland.

AL-AHRAM SUPPORTS MEASURES TAKEN BY ASYUT UNIVERSITY

NC180916 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 18 Nov 80

[From the press review]

[Text] In an editorial entitled "No to Any Sabotage Attempt," AL-AHRAM supports the decision made by the president of Asyut University to suspend studies at the university for a few days in order to adopt the necessary measures against a group of students who have distorted the beautiful image of our universities, an image which we are eager to preserve.

AL-AHRAM says: If we call for freedom and democracy, we call, at the same time, for discipline and responsibility: two demands that strengthen and do not undermine freedom. Freedom and democracy does not allow a group of students who have failed several times in their studies, and hence have lost their university housing privileges, to imagine that by throwing stones at workers who are building a wall around the university they can change the university's rules or obtain a privilege to which they are not entitled.

What these students have done is by all standards a departure from discipline, freedom, democracy and all university traditions. Freedom is not afraid of those who try to attack it. It is a great mistake not to confront these aggressors.

Therefore, the Asyut University president's decision to suspend studies and announce the facts, so that everybody should know that there is no place for saboteurs and undisciplined elements among our ranks, was a daring one.

The universities are for science, study and freedom; they are not for sabotage, muscle flexing and departure from discipline. Every act of sabotage should be confronted and dealt with out of concern for democracy and freedom.

The dissatisfaction demonstrated by the majority of the students toward the behavior of this worthless group illustrates best the mischievous act that group committed.

COMMENTARY VIEWS MISSILE INCIDENT IN KUWAIT

NC142210 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 14 Nov 80

[From the "We and the World" program]

[Excerpt] There can be no doubt that attempts are being made to draw Kuwait into the Iraqi-Iranian conflict. These attempts began when unidentified missiles were fired on the Al-'Abdali area on the Iraqi-Kuwaiti border. It has been said that these attempts [as heard] were deliberate, and it has also been said that they were not deliberate. It has also been said that one or two Iranian planes fired the missiles. At any rate, many observers consider this an atempt to draw Kuwait into the conflict. These observers even regard this as an attempt to draw all the Gulf states, or all the oil states, into the Iraqi-Iranian conflict.

We believe that, if deliberate, the firing of missiles on a Kuwaiti area might have one of two objectives: Iraq might trying to gain the whole area on its side in this war. Consequently, some planes posed as Iranian planes and bombed the Kuwaiti-Iraqi border to provoke the Gulf states--and succeeded to a certain extent. Skhaykh Zayid, president of the UAE; Shaykh 'Isa ibn Khalifah, amir of Bahrain; and Prine Fahd, Saudi crown prince, telephoned the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, to affirm their support for Kuwait against any aggression.

Perhaps this provocation was the objective of the attack. Or, it could also be that there are big states behind this incident, or that there are states trying to draw the whole area into a war which would drain the resources of the area.

Such an involvement would make it easy for the big states to intervene under the pretext of protecting international interests--for the world would not condone an international economic catastrophy that would endanger the interests of the oil-producing and oil-consuming states. Nor do we rule out the fact that a minor incident, such as the attack launched against the Al-'Abdali area, would have larger ramifications. The discovery and downing of a U-2 spy plane over Soviet territory sapped the European-American [as heard] summit conference, which was scheduled to convene in Paris in May 1960. Even before that, the aggression perpetrated by Israel [against Egypt] in 1956, signaled the collusion between Britain and France against Egypt.

Therefore, diplomatic sources in Kuwait are of the consensus that the missile attack against the Al-'Abali area is a tangible warning that it is impossible for the Gulf states to escape the effects of the war raging between Iraq and Iran. Furthermore, the attempt to extend the war to other oil states would upset the oil balance now in effect, regardless of the Iraqi-Iranian war.

TRIPARTITE AUTONOMY COMMITTEE MEETING CONCLUDES 17 NOV

NC171922 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1755 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Cairo, 17 Nov (MENA)--The tripartite committee on the autonomy talks for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip concluded its meeting this evening.

A source close to the meeting has stated that the committee reviewed the situation regarding autonomy and what it will achieve in the forthcoming stage, in light of the existing conditions in the area, the Israeli resolution on Jerusalem and other Israeli measures in the occupied Arab territory. Egypt has announced its rejection and denunciation of these measures, particularly those pertinent to the settlements, the West Bank mayors and Jerusalem.

The Egyptian side to the committee meeting was headed by Ambassador 'Izzat 'Abd al-Latif, the U.S. side was headed by James Leonard, the alternate head of the U.S. delegation to the autonomy negotiations and the Israeli side by Hayim Kubersky, the Israeli Interior Ministry director general.

The Israeli delegation is scheduled to leave Cairo for Israel tomorrow, Tuesday.

GHALI COMMENTS ON BEGIN GOVERNMENT, GULF WAR

NC142058 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Nov 80

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has granted an interview to the Spanish newspaper EL PAIS. The interview was published in today's edition of this newspaper. Dr Ghali stressed that the Begin government lacks political imagination and magnanimity, because Israel refuses to grant the Palestinian people the right to self-determination.

Dr Ghali expressed concern over the war raging between Iraq and Iran, which is considered a mere civil war between two developing Islamic countries pursuing the policy of nonalignment.

Dr Ghali said that the effects of this war will be extremely serious for the countries of the area and for a number of poor African and Asian states which received aid and oil from Iraq and Iran.

In conclusion Dr Ghali affirmed that Egypt is not isolated and that it is the Arab world that suffers from isolation.

AL-AHRAM REPORTS ON AS-SADAT REMARKS TO PEOPLE MAGAZINE

NC180937 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0610 GMT 18 Nov 80

[From the press preview]

[Text] Under banner headlines AL-AHRAM highlights President as-Sadat's interview with the U.S. magazine PEOPLE. In the interview, President as-Sadat says that the alleged Arab solidarity formed 15 months ago to oppose Egypt's Middle East efforts has disintegrated and no longer exists.

President as-Sadat also says: The Arab leaders are now confused and do not know who will sit with whom at the next Arab summit conference. There is also a dispute among them about whether this conference should convene or not.

Referring to relations prevailing among Arab states since they severed relations with Egypt, President as-Sadat says: Iraq and Iran are killing each other. Iraq has severed relations with Syria and Libya, and Saudi Arabia has severed relations with Libya.

OIL PRICES TO BE RAISED $2 PER BARREL EFFECTIVE 1 DEC

NC180741 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2235 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Excerpts] Cairo, 17 Nov (MENA)--The Egyptian petroleum authority has decided to raise the price of Egyptian crude oil sold to international companies by $2 per barrel as of 1 December.

According to the decision, the price of a barrel of crude oil from the (Murjan) oil well will be $36 instead of $34, Al-Bala'im oil will be $31 instead of $29 and Gharib oil will be $26 instead of $24.

In its edition tomorrow, AL-AHRAM publishes a statement by a responsible source in the petroleum authority saying that the increase is due to increases both in world market oil prices and in the demand for Egyptian oil.

AS-SADAT CONGRATULATES OMANI SULTAN ON NATIONAL DAY

NC171525 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Cairo, 17 Nov (MENA)--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has sent the following telegram of congratulations to His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman of the anniversary of Oman's national day and his majesty's birthday: I am delighted to take the opportunity of your observance, together with the fraternal people of Oman, of your country's national day and of your happy birthday to express to Your Majesty on my own behalf and on behalf of the people of the Arab Republic of Egypt our sincerest and most cordial congratulations. I invoke almighty God to grant us success in achieving good for our two brotherly peoples and in realizing the hope of the peoples of our Arab and Islamic nation for a free, dignified life. Please accept by sincerest greetings and my best wishes for your personal good health and happiness. I also wish continuing progress and prosperity for your fraternal people. Please accept the expressions of my deep esteem and brotherly appreciation.

Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has also sent a similar telegram of congratulations on this occasion.

TARIQ 'AZIZ SPEAKS ON ECONOMY, REAGAN, USSR STAND

JN171305 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 15 Nov 80 p 24

[Text] In an extremely calm atmosphere, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz, on Wednesday evening, 15 November, met at a reception with Arab politicians, diplomats and newsmen following his meeting with French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing. The reception was hosted by the Iraqi ambassador in Paris in honor of Tariq 'Aziz and his delegation that comprised several Iraqi army, air force and air defense officers.

Speaking about his meeting with the French president, Tariq 'Aziz said that the meeting was part of the periodic and traditional consultations which stem from the greatly improved relations between Baghdad and Paris. He said that he had handed the French president a special, detailed and urgent message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

Some Arab sources, which had the opportunity of meeting with Tariq 'Aziz, said that the talks also dealt with several military matters, and that a number of high-ranking Iraqi Air Force officials and technicians were instructed to stay in Paris to complete their technical talks with French military officials following Tariq 'Aziz' return to Baghdad.

While this was taking place in Paris, Baghdad announced that a high-ranking Iraqi personality had left for Moscow.

Regarding Ronald Reagan's election as President of the United States, Tariq 'Aziz said that this is a good omen, because a powerful Reagan--as it is being said--could be much better than the weak and vacillating Carter who never treated Arab rights in a just manner. Reagan is specific and knows what he wants. We will be capable of predicting all that he seeks and aims at implementing.

Regarding the Iraqi economic situation now that the fighting has entered its 50th day, Tariq 'Aziz said that all that is declared in the West, the United States and other places concerning economic difficulties is exaggerated. Iraq is prepared to continue the fighting for a long period and it has enough arms. The Iranian Air Force has carried out several raids on Baghdad and jettisoned many rockets. However, these incendiary and destructive rockets, of which we now have accumulated thousands, have been defused. These rockets were jettisoned by Iranian planes in a haphazard manner because they were flying at low altitude to avoid our air defenses' missile networks. This was confirmed to us by the pilots we have captured. They are inexperienced, with some of them having no more than 120 hours of flight time. We do not permit our pilots to fly fighters and bombers unless they have at least 400 hours of flight time. Tariq 'Aziz pointed his finger at the Iraqi pilots who were present at the reception in civilian attire. Perhaps 'Aziz meant by that gesture to show the difference between the combat capabilities of the Iraqi and Iranian Air Forces.

On the Soviet Union's stand, Tariq 'Aziz said it is a stand to which the well-known English proverb "wait and see" can be applied. He said: The Soviets have floated a number of trial balloons at a time when the Iraqi Communist Party has been issuing statements. I submitted some of the contents of these statements, in the form of a question, to Boris Ponomarev, CPSU Central Committee secretary, at our meeting in the Kremlin during my recent visit to Moscow in the wake of the eruption of military battles. He told me verbatim: This is the Iraqi Communist Party stand and not the Soviet Government stand.

It is known that the Iraqi Communist Party in its secret leaflets call for immediately halting the war between Iran and Iraq and for overthrowing the ruling regime in Baghdad.

'Aziz added that the Soviets are now waiting for the outcome of the fighting before they decide on which side they will stand.

Concerning the siege of Iranian cities, Tariq 'Aziz said that we are aware of the results of such a siege. Tariq 'Aziz pointed out that we are not seeking to besiege the cities but that there were a few times when we were forced to do so, adding that when the Iranian media jeered at our military capabilities, we had to prove them wrong.

Concerning Imam Ayatollah Khomeyni, Tariq 'Aziz stated that we never said that Khomeyni is an agent. However, he added, Khomeyni is an extremist and fanatical leader. Indeed, Tariq 'Aziz pointed out, it is Khomeyni's slogans which are making the situation even more complex.

Asked about Iraqi losses, Tariq 'Aziz calmly said: We announce the real figures of our losses to the Iraqi people since it is the battle of all the people.

Concerning the 1975 agreement signed between the former Iranian shah and the Iraqi leadership through the mediation of deceased Algerian President Houari Boumedienne, Tariq 'Aziz said: The ex-shah was very hesitant about accepting the terms of the agreement. However, we hinted that if such an agreement was not reached, Iraq would be in a position to give the communists the freedom to operate on the Iraqi-Iranian border. As a result, the deposed shah accepted the terms of the agreement in less than a week's time.

Tariq 'Aziz added: Unfortunately, however, the agreement, as an agreement, was buried with deceased Algerian President Houari Boumedienne.

Concerning the battle arenas and psychological warfare, Tariq 'Aziz did not deny the Iraqi leadership's support for the Kurds through supplying them with arms to enable them to confront the Tehran government and subsequently divide the ranks of the Iranian leadership. Indeed, he added, this was manifested when Abolhasan Bani-Sadr was summoned from the front to Tehran. Bani-Sadr had announced earlier that he would assume the higher military leadership and, accordingly, leave for the front to supervise the formation of two divisions. In fact, Bani-Sadr said he would remain at the military front until the Iranian forces were able to confront the Iraqi Army.

Tariq 'Aziz said: Well, I wrote a commentary in which I said that Bani-Sadr is not preparing the two divisions for the purpose of fighting. Rather, I said, Bani-Sadr intends to use these divisions to bolster his military power in order to confront his rivals in Tehran. Thus, when the ruling Iranian elements learned this, they proceeded to summon Bani-Sadr to Tehran in order to remove him from the front.

Concerning the Iranian political, social and economic front, Tariq 'Aziz said that the Iraqi leadership is well aware that the continuation of the war is making even those who are hostile to Khomeyni and the fanatical religious regime in Tehran rally round the government. However, Tariq 'Aziz pointed out, as the war continues, the various peoples in Iran will realize that the promises made by the Tehran government have not been fulfilled, which would thus lead to the fragmentation of the current Iranian administration.

Tariq 'Aziz pointed out that Iran, which includes various peoples and nationalities--including Arabs, who are still being subjected to oppression and arbitrary measures--has never been united. Indeed, Iran's unity was only short-lived and was brought about by the shah 7 years ago.

In reply to the question on the possibility of breaching the Iraqi battle front in a manner similar to what was done in the Egyptian front during the Egyptian-Israeli war of October 1973, Tariq 'Aziz said: We learned that there is an intention to breach our northern ranks. However, when this report was conveyed to President Saddam Husayn, he said: We have to reinforce our positions in the north with great alertness. However, if the enemy is contemplating a move to breach our ranks, it will not be in the north but in the south.

Tariq 'Aziz then pointed out that it was only a few days later that President Saddam's expectation was fulfilled, and we completely liquidated this attempt.

Concerning Iran's need for the United States and its spare arms, Tariq 'Aziz said that there are unlimited contradictions within the ranks of the Iranian leadership, pointing out that Bani-Sadr is ready to adopt stands of openness toward the United States. Tariq 'Aziz added that it is not true that Iran is in dire need of spare parts, since it has received large quantities of spare parts via the Netherlands, the DPRK, South Korea, Turkey, Pakistan and others. Tariq 'Aziz added: Actually, we do not want to focus on Pakistan's role considering its attempts to mediate.

LONDON PAPER REPORTS ON DEPUTY PREMIER'S MOSCOW VISIT

LD171011 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 14 Nov 80 p 1

[Hasan Luqays report: "Iraq Defines Its New Stand in Light of 'Aziz's Visit to Moscow"]

[Excerpt] Baghdad--It was learned yesterday that Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz's second visit to Moscow dealt with "the quality of relations between the Soviet Union and Iraq" and that its results, according to official sources, were good.

Official Iraqi sources said: The consultations between Moscow and Baghdad center on the concept of friendship that Iraq wants with the Soviet Union, particularly since the present situation should clearly reveal whether Moscow is going to agree with Baghdad's understanding of the concept of this friendship.

The sources added: It is true that Iraq is bound to the Soviet Union by a friendship treaty and that most of the Iraqi Army's weapons are Soviet, but, proceeding from President Saddam Husayn's declaration at this press conference Monday night that Iraq does not expect the Soviet Union to defend its interests, Baghdad insists that it alone takes the decision on any stand that it might find suitable and necessary to defend its sovereignty, territories and waters, whether this decision is military, political or diplomatic. Baghdad also insists that the arms contracts concluded between the two countries before the war remain purely commercial contracts, particularly since Iraq is the only Arab country that pays in cash the cost of weapons it buys from the Soviet Union.

Certain Western diplomatic sources in Baghdad have expressed their doubts that 'Aziz's visit to Moscow was altogether successful in convincing the Soviets of the Iraqi viewpoint on the concept of friendship that Iraq wants with the Soviet Union.

The sources added: Moscow is still gambling on the role that certain organizations and political blocs sympathizing with the Kremlin inside Iran might play, particularly on the power struggle between power centers in Iran, which might lead to a new political situation in which these forces might reemerge and thus play a greater role in Iran's future political life.

The sources added: This explains the shipment of Soviet arms to Tehran by some of the Eastern bloc countries and the likelihood of Libyan-Soviet cooperation in this field.

SADDAM HUSAYN REPORTEDLY NOT TO ATTEND ARAB SUMMIT

LD181146 Kuwait KUNA in English 1050 GMT 18 NOv 80

[Text] Kuwait, 18 Nov (KUNA)--Iraqi President Saddam Husayn will not attend the Arab summit conference scheduled to be held in the Jordianian capital on November 25 due to the present conflict with Iran, a Kuwaiti newspaper reported here Tuesday.

AR-RA'Y AL'AMM, quoting a dispatch from Amman, said President Husayn will deputize the vice-chairman of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council 'Izzat Ibrahim to head the Iraqi delegation to the conference.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES 17-18 NOV

Communique No 146

JN171703 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1646 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Communique No 146 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 17 November 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our battle with the reckless racist Persian enemy will continue and our armed forces will continue to chase and deal punishing blows to this enemy wherever he is found in the operational sectors until the regime of ignorants and charlatans, headed by arch-satan Khomeyni, recognizes our legitimate rights over our land and waters.

Our armed forces' activities this afternoon were as follows:

I. This afternoon, our helicopters raided enemy armor and vehicle concentrations in the Al-Khafajiyeh [Susangerd] area, inflicting heavy losses as follows:

A. Sixteen tanks were destroyed by direct hits.
B. Four armored personnel carriers were destroyed.
C. Several supply dumps were blown up and destroyed.
D. Several enemy personnel and vehicle concentrations were destroyed in direct hits.

II. Our air force planes raided enemy concentrations in the Al-Khafajiyeh area, scoring direct hits.

All our helicopters and fighter planes returned safely to their bases.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 November 1980.

Communique No 147

JN181135 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1057 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Communique No 147 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 18 November 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

The sons of our great army are fighting on this sacred day on which the greatest of all martyrs Al-Husayn ibn 'Ali, may peace be upon him, and his righteous followers were martyred on the road of right and principles. The grandsons of Al-Husayn ibn 'Ali, the heroes of our armed forces, are today fighting in defense of the principles and values for which the greatest of all martyrs was martyred, against the racist Persian Magian aggression and for the sake of regaining the rights of the people and nation and for safeguarding its dignity and honor on the eastern borders.

The outcome of our armed forces' activities in the operational sectors yesterday evening and this morning was as follows:

I. The ground forces:

A. Known enemy losses:

1. Our troops continued to tighten the grip on the enemy's pockets in Susangerd, to strike at and destroy the enemy reinforcements and inflict grave losses in life and equipment on it as follows:

A. In personnel: 88 killed.
B. In equipment: Three tanks; six vehicles, four of which were loaded with military supplies; and one armored personnel carrier were destroyed.

2. The enemy tried to attack our units in the Abadan area. Our units repulsed it violently, inflicting the following losses:

A. In personnel: 150 killed, a large number wounded.
B. In equipment: Four vehicles, four 106-mm guns and one missile launcher were destroyed.

3. Enemy losses in the other sectors:

A. In personnel: 18 killed.
B. In equipment: Three guns and one vehicle were destroyed.

4. Our forces attacked enemy naval targets at the head of the Arab gulf, sinking three medium-size gunboats.

5. Our helicopters raided enemy military targets in Susangerd and Abadan, as well as in the northern sector of the theater of operations, inflicting the following losses on it: Five tanks and one missile launcher were destroyed. Our forces scored several direct hits on enemy personnel concentrations. In addition to the complete destruction of enemy concentrations near Salman village in Abadan. Four vehicles and several stockpiles of military supplies were destroyed.

All our helicopters returned to their bases except for one, which went down on the battlefield in the Susangerd area. Its two pilots were saved and removed safely to our forward units.

This makes the total losses of the enemy yesterday afternoon and this morning as follows: 256 killed; eight tanks; 15 vehicles of various types, four of which were loaded with military supplies; seven guns of various calibers; one armored personnel carrier; two missile launchers; several stockpiles of military supplies; a number of concentrations of enemy vehicles and personnel and three medium-size gunboats.

B. Our losses:

1. In personnel: 26 martyrs in all sectors.

2. In equipment: Three vehicles.

II. The air forces:

A. At 0925 two enemy planes raided the Al-Faw area in Basra. Our ground defenses intercepted them, downing a Phantom aircraft and forcing the other to flee.

B. Our planes this morning raided concentrations of enemy armored cars and vehicles in the Amirabad area, inflicting grave losses on them. All our planes returned safely to the homeland.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 November 1980.

BBC REPORTS ON FIGHTING IN KHUNINSHAHR, ABADAN

TA141548 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 14 Nov 80

[Text] In the Gulf war, the Iraqis now appear to be concentrating on making all-weather roads and other preparations for the wet season. The main fighting is still concentrated around the big oil-refining city of Abadan, Meanwhile, journalists have had a chance to see for themselves the aftermath of the fighting for control of the nearby Iranian city of Khuninshahr [Khorranshahr]. Our special correspondent, Jeffery Wearam, was taken around the city by Iraqi officers, and he sent this report:

[Begin recording] The utter devastation in Khuninshahr is testimony to the bitterness of the battle and the tenacity of the defenders. Very few buildings have escaped some damage. Even now Iraqi troops occupying the northern bank of the Karun River made us make a dash for cover because of sniper and mortar fire from the far bank. But elsewhere in the city, the troops are relaxed and already a few civilians are returning to salvage what they can. A senior officer said the army was providing them with food and water.

The main streets of Khuninshahr are littered with rubble, broken telegraph poles and cables. In the wall of a ruined mosque, a slogan calling for protection for the house of God, has been riddled with bullets. In a house once occupied by a well-to-do family were the remains of their last meal. A child's school homework was still on the table. Even a doll had been abandoned in the haste to reach safety. A few starving cats scavenged for food, no longer alarmed by the noise of a single artillery-piece pointing in the direction of Abadan.

The oil-refining city, 12 km from Khuninshahr, is marred as it has been for days, by a huge cloud of smoke from oil fires. A brigadier general was one of several senior officers who claimed that Abadan is now completely cut off. The general told me that the Iranian defenders are getting no supplies of food or ammunition, and the situation inside the city was very serious. He added that the Iraqi strategy was a combination of siege and attack. He was confident that the fall of Abadan was only a matter of time. The gateway to Abadan, a 250-yard bridge across the Karun River, is still being fiercely defended by the Iranian forces, so the Iraqis still have to rely heavily on pontoon bridges they have thrown across the river further upstream. [end recording]

TAHA YASIN RAMADAN COMMENTS ON PEOPLE'S ARMY

JN171510 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1410 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 17 Nov (INA)--Taha Yasin Ramadan, commander in chief of the People's Army, has said that the number of People's Army fighters trained during the war has exceeded 45,000. In a press statement, he added that volunteering for service in the various formations of the People's Army has been at such a high level that there have been difficulties in training. Ramadan asserted that a program has been drawn up whereby all the members of the People's Army will have the honor of participating in the war.

Ramadan added: We have trained the People's Army for a long war and it does not take it long to be combat ready. All the fighters in any governorate can be mobilized in less than an hour. This is a trait that characterizes only regular armies.

On the number of Arab volunteers in the People's Army, Ramadan said that they run in the thousands and that those who are actually contributing to the fronts run in the hundreds.

ARABISTAN YOUTH CARRY OUT GUERRILLA OPERATIONS

JN131716 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1640 GMT 13 Nov 80

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Nov (INA)--A group of Arabistan youth in Ahvaz planted delayed-action explosive charges under the largest pipeline used to carry crude oil to Tehran. The charges went off on time today, setting the pipeline on fire. The forward Iraqi military units standing on the outskirts of Ahvaz saw the tongues of flames rising over the pipeline, which is still burning.

Fedayeen Attacks

JN140531 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0500 GMT 14 Nov 80

[Excerpt] The Arabistan youth in Ahvaz have carried out a number of fedayeen operations against charlatan Khomeyni's revolution guards. A group of Arabistan youth attacked the Khomeyni guards in the village of (Al-Abbarah), east of Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr], capturing two of them. The same group intercepted a unit of Khomeyni guards that attempted to infiltrate the Karun River, killing two guards. The rest took to their heels, leaving behind the two corpses.

The Arabistan youth returned the shelling launched by the Persian forces on the (Sayhan) area. The Arabistan youth used mortars, RPG-7's and light weapons.

MINISTER INAUGURATES AUTONOMOUS REGION COUNCIL

JN151912 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 15 Nov 80

[Text] Irbil, Northern Iraq, 15 Nov (INA)--The legislative council of the autonomous region of Kurdistan began its new session here today. The session will last 3 years.

'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin, Revolution Command Council member and local government minister, delivered the opening speech on behalf of President Saddam Husayn. The minister said: The council is beginning its session in immortal days during which our people and army are recording heroic epics in the struggle to regain the usurped Arab rights and to defend the honor of the homeland and the legitimate rights of Iraq and the Arab nation.

Referring to the Iranian aggression against Iraq, the minister said that Iraq was forced to enter the war to defend its rights to its territories and waters. He added: Regardless of the victories scored by our army against the Persian aggressors, the Iraqi position is clear and frank: Iraq has no territorial ambitions on Iran.

During the first meeting of the current session, the council elected by direct secret ballot the following office holders: Ahmad 'Abd al-Qadir an-Naqshabandi as speaker, Jamal al-Hajj Sharif as deputy speaker, and Hikmat al-Hajj Salim as secretary. The council also authorized the speaker to form a committee of council members to draft the council's by-laws and to submit them to the next meeting for discussion and approval.

The council, which is based in Irbil, the capital of the autonomous region, consists of 50 members, elected by direct secret ballot on 11 September 1980. They represent the citizens of the autonomous region, which consists of the provinces of As-Sulaymaniyah, Irbil and Dahuk.

DEPUTY PREMIER RECEIVES JAPANESE AMBASSADOR IN BAGHDAD

JN161327 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0845 GMT 16 Nov 80

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Nov (INA)--Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, received (Hidio Kagami), the Japanese ambassador in Baghdad, this morning.

Discussion during this meeting dealt with bilateral economic and technical relations and with means of developing them, as well as with progress in the work of Japanese firms in the country.

They also dealt with the program of the first deputy prime minister's coming visit to Japan and the meetings of joint Iraqi-Japanese committee.

CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER ENDS 3-DAY VISIT

JN171455 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Isidoro Malmierca, Cuban foreign minister and envoy of Cuban President Fidel Castro, who is the chairman of the nonaligned movement, to President Saddam Husayn, left Baghdad following a 3-day visit to Iraq.

President Saddam Husayn received the Cuban envoy and reviewed with him the efforts being exerted by the nonaligned movement to solve the Iraqi-Iranian conflict in order to reach a peaceful settlement that guarantees Iraq's legitimate rights.

KUWAITI ENVOY TO PRESIDENT LEAVES 17 NOV

JN171330 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Muhammad Yusuf al-'Adasani, the Kuwaiti minister of public works and personal envoy to President Saddam Husayn from his brother His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait, left Baghdad last night at the end of a short visit to Iraq.

Al-'Adasani conveyed to President Saddam Husayn an oral message from His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah dealing with the situation in the region and the stand on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland.

ATM-THAWRAH ACCUSES SYRIA OF BLOCKING ARAB SUMMIT

LD141256 Kuwait KUNA in English 1115 GMT 14 Nov 80

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Nov (KUNA)--Iraq Friday continued its attack on Syria for requesting postponement of the 11th Arab summit conference to be held in Amman later this month, describing the request as a violation of the overall Arab consensus demonstrated in Baghdad and Tunis conferences.

ATH-THAWRAH newspaper, the mouth-piece of the ruling Ba'th Party accused Syria of putting hurdles before the conference which it said would provide an opportunity for development of inter-Arab relations.

The newspaper wrote: "There is only one explanation for the Syrian action and that is it schemes to cause the collapse of the Arab conferences which helped in unifying the Arab ranks.

It added that the Syrian regime is serving the imperialist and Zionist plans opposed to the Arab causes and objectives.

Syria had requested the postponement of the 11th Arab summit conference on the grounds that the present Arab state of affairs does not help in its success and demanded that efforts be made to settle inter-Arab disputes before holding the meeting.

VOICE OF IRAQI KURDISTAN ASSIALS SADDAM, TURKISH RULERS

JN151845 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1625 GMT 15 Nov 80

[Unattributed Commentary: "Wishes Are the Capital of the Bankrupt"]

[Text] Saddam Husayn, leader of the racist Tikriti regime in Iraq, has expressed sentiments of friendship and cordiality with the ruling Turkish military clique, saying: I wish the Turkish coup movement prosperity, stability and strength. From the first day it took power, this Turkish clique launched a campaign of terror and executions. It employed every means to imprison and detain the sons of the Turkish peoples but has recently been forced to release some of the detainees for lack of space in prisons and detention cells. For Saddam to express love and friendship with the Turkish ruling clique is nothing strange because the adventure of the Turkish clique is part of the adventures led by the imperialist forces in the region. This adventure is part of the armed aggressive offensive against the Iraniam peoples' revolution. During his press conference, liar Saddam shamelessly and brazenly defended the military clique of the Turkish coup. Saddam knows that this coup came about to strike at the Turkish national movement and to systematically oppose the Kurdish national liberation movement.

The fascist Turkish coup [words indistinct] despite Saddam's wishes of success, stability and strength but came about in accordance with a plan drawn up in the offices of NATO and the CIA. We can only assure Saddam and his fascist brothers at the head of the military clique in Turkey that prosperity, stability and strength will always be on the side of the heroic Turkish people and on the side of their liberation movements, such as the Kurdish national liberation movement. The wishes of those whose political lives have been associated with bloodshed and antipeople activities can only be described as the wishes of the bankrupt.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SET TO REDUCE RELATIONS WITH IRAN

JN170739 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 17 Nov 80 P1

[Text] Amman--Foreign Ministry Secretary General 'Amiri Shammut has asserted that the Foreign Ministry has so far not yet been officially notified by the Iranian Government concerning the reduction of its diplomatic representation. He added that the Jordanian Government will withdraw its ambassador immediately when it is officially notified of this.

Shammut added that the Iranian diplomatic representation in Amman will be reduced to the charge d'affairs level in accordance with the principle of reciprocity.

BADRAN ADDRESSES NATIONAL COUNCIL ON ARAB SUMMIT

JN171613 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1510 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 17 Nov (PETRA)--Prime Minister Mudar Badran has said that Jordan believes that the Arab differences are superficial and not deep and that the 11th Arab summit conference, which will be held in Amman as scheduled, will remove these differences. The prime minister added: To date, we have not received any official memorandum from any Arab state informing us that it will not attend the conference. What we have received thus far is the memo submitted by fraternal Syria to the Arab League General Secretariat proposing the postponement of the conference to a later, unspecified date.

At a National Consultative Council [NCC] session held here today under NCC speaker Ahmad at-Tarawinah and attended by the members of the Cabinet, Prime Minister Mudar Badran asserted that the other Arab states expressed their support and insisted that the summit conference convocation date should be unchanged, as approved by the Arab leaders at their 10th summit conference in Tunis. He added: At the ninth Arab summit conference held in Baghdad, the Arab leaders decided to hold annual meetings in November and to hold emergency summit conferences during the year if the need arises. The 10th Arab summit conference in Tunis was held in implementation of this decision. Badran said that this conference confirmed the need to convene periodic annual Arab summit conferences, taking into consideration the alphabetical order of each country that wishes to host the summit conference. Accordingly, it is Jordan's turn to host the conference in Amman.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran said: The Tunis summit conference also decided that the Arab economic strategy should be the first topic on the agenda of the 11th Arab summit conference. For this reason, Jordan hosted the conference of Arab foreign, economy and finance ministers in the middle of 1980. The seven-member committee, whose meetings in Amman were attended by all the Arab brothers, sprang from this conference. This meeting was preceded by the Arab foreign ministers meeting in New York during which everybody stressed the necessity of convening the Arab summit conference, the foreign ministers conference and the seven-member committee meetings as scheduled.

Badran said that the seven-member committee drew up the basic points of the agenda which will be submitted for study to the Arab foreign ministers conference. The recommendations will then be referred to the summit conference, which will be held on 25 November.

On the efforts being exerted to persuade the Arab states which requested the postponement of the summit conference to withdraw their request, the prime minister said: We have no knowledge of this. We viewed the Syrian memorandum at its face value. The Syrian request came in the form of a personal opinion, to which we replied with another opinion; namely, we agreed to the convocation of the summit with Arab unanimity and it is not permissible for any Arab state to decline to attend. The other Arab states expressed their support, and some urgently insisted, that the date and venue of the conference should be retained as agreed upon by the Arab leaders at their 10th conference in Tunis.

The prime minister added: It is our personal opinion that the convocation of the summit as scheduled is for the good of all. It has been ascertained that all the Arab meetings, from the Khartoum conference to date, were for the good of the Arab nation. The Arab states which did not attend the Khartoum conference regretted it and became convinced that such meetings are for the good of the Arab nation.

Answering a question on Egypt's stand on the Arab League, the prime minister said: The Egyptian regime was expelled from the Arab League.

Concluding his statement, Mudar Badran affirmed that the summit conference will be held at its venue as scheduled and will be attended by all Arab countries.

NCC speaker Ahmad at-Tarawinah then affirmed that the NCC shares the government's hope that the conference will succeed for the good of the Arab nation. He said: We are confident that the Arab leaders will rise above all differences and will sincerely seek to unify the Arab ranks. We wish them success at their esteemed conference.

AL-AKHBAR CALLS FOR ARAB SUPPORT FOR KUWAIT, IRAQ

JN170750 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline" Supporting Kuwait" AL-AKHBAR says: The intermittent firing of rockets at Kuwaiti territory is similar to the continuous aggressive behavior pursued by Tehran against Iraqi territory. This aggression did not stop until Iraq replied to it by an all-out attack which taught Iranian rulers a lesson they will never forget.

The primary encouragement for Iran to shell Kuwaiti territory was the Arab nation's hesitation in supporting Iraq in its pan-Arab war, which led Tehran's rulers to imagine that they could achieve victories in other places in the Arab Gulf following their failure to stand against Iraq's valiant armed forces.

To avoid a repetition of the tragedy, the Arab nation is called upon to realistically take a stand beside Kuwait to deter the Iranian aggression and to prevent this war from spreading to other Gulf states, as could be expected if the Arab nation does not simultaneously support Kuwait and Iraq.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD MEETS WITH SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER

JN171652 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] At 1230 today His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister.

The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs.

The Saudi foreign minister arrived in Damascus this morning.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal delivered to his excellency the president a message from His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on the Arab summit conference which had been scheduled in Amman.

The two sides also discussed the importance of overcoming the obstacles facing the summit to ensure that it will succeed. The two sides also reviewed the situation in the Arab homeland.

His excellency the president asked His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal to convey a reply message to His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz which also contains President al'Asad's greetings.

RALLY HELD ON CORRECTIVE MOVEMENT ANNIVERSARY

JN161904 [Editorial Report] Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic at 1505 GMT on 16 November 1980 begins a live broadcast from the Damascus University auditorium in Damascus of the speech rally held by the command of the Damascus Ba'th Party branch on the 10th anniversary of the Syrian corrective movement.

At 1510 GMT, 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, arrives accompanied by members of the Ba'th Party national and regional commands, members of the Central Committee of the Progressive National Front and Syrian Government ministers.

The speech rally begins at 1512 GMT with those in attendance observing a minute of silence in honor of Syrian martyrs.

At 1513 GMT, Firyal Mahayini, president of the Syrian Women's Federation, begins to speak on behalf of the popular organizations. She praises the role of the corrective movement in reviving the Ba'th Party and the movement's achievements in the industrial, economic and political fields. She emphasizes the role played by the movement in giving women their rights. She also commends Syria's role in safeguarding Lebanon's unity and Syria's unity with Libya and the treaty signed with USSR.

At 1533 GMT, Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Othman, member of the Progressive National Front Command, delivers the front's speech. He lauds the corrective movement's achievements on the domestic, Arab and international fields. He states: "The basic conflict at this phase is between the Arab nation on the one hand and imperialism, Zionism and their agents on the other. The size of this conflict surpasses the capabilities of any single Arab country. The Zionist danger has all the Arab countries as its target. He calls on the Arabs to mobilize their potentials to confront the Zionist threat. He stresses that Syria strengthened its relations with all liberation movements and the socialist bloc, particularly with the USSR. He says: "These relations have been crowned with the friendship and cooperation treaty between Syria and the USSR." He then attacks Arab reactionary regimes and the Muslim Brotherhood organization, stating: "The corrective movement's command responded to the call of the Libyan leadership to achieve the merger unity between the two countries" to foil the Camp David plans and to strengthen the progressive front.

At 1557 GMT, Zuhayr Mashariqah, Ba'th Party regional assistant secretary, delivers the Ba'th Party's speech. He praises the corrective movement, saying that President Hafiz al-Asad can be considered the real founder of the Ba'th Party. He explains that Zionism and imperialism continue to hatch plots and conspiracies against Syria, stating that the Muslim Brotherhood organization's crimes are part of these plots. He stresses that Syria is stronger than ever, explaining that the unity with Libya will be the nucleus of the greater unity state. He says that the treaty with the friendly USSR "comes to strengthen the independence of our will" in confronting the plans of Zionism and U.S. imperialism. He stresses: "This treaty is important because it is a major factor in achieving strategic balance with the Zionist enemy."

He says: "U.S. imperialism is trying hard to divert attention from the basic struggle of the Arab nation against the Zionist enemy to other areas, as is the case in the Iraqi-Iranian war. U.S. imperialism has exploded this war in order to alienate the friends of the Arab nation and to neutralize them in the Arab-Israeli conflict or to turn them into enemies. U.S. imperialism seeks to create new spots of tension in the region. This is the aim of the Zionist state. This war will isolate Iraq and detach it from the fateful Arab battles." He concludes his address by saying that Syria will continue to march forward under the leadership of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

At 1627 GMT, Muhammad Najib Jamal ad-Din, a Lebanese poet, recites a poem praising Syria, criticizing the Iraqi war against Iran and condemning Egyptian President as-Sadat and the Arab reactionary regimes.

Following this at 1656 GMT, the speech rally is ended by the participants' signing of the Ba'th Party anthem. The live broadcast ends at 1700 GMT.

TISHRIN REITERATES SYRIAN STAND ON ARAB SUMMIT

JN171030 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Return to the Summit" TISHRIN says: It is not repetitious if we return to the subject of the 11th Arab summit. Syria's call to postpone the convening of the Amman summit and the rationale for that call have met with a broad Arab response compared to that of the countries that, up to now, have backed its convocation. It is important to refer to the reaction stirred up by this call in the Arab capitals.

When Syria called for postponing the summit, it realized that it was asking for an important thing. Syria appreciates the status of the summit as the highest Arab body. But Syria had reasons, expectations and facts that encouraged it to submit this call.

The paper adds: During the seven-sided meetings in Amman, Syria warned of the attempts to make the Arab nation forget its crucial battle and archenemy and to divert its attention from pan-Arab duties. When Syria warned of these attempts, it was aware of the fact that these attempts were escalating and would not stop at a certain point.

The fabricated war against the Iranian revolution has attested to Syria's viewpoint that the Arab nation is no longer facing only the tripartite alliance of Camp David. Thus, if we review events since the convocation of the Tunis summit, which decided to convene the next summit in Amman in November, Syria's call has proven to be a necessity dictated by supreme pan-Arab interests and by honest concern over the future of joint Arab action on all levels.

Despite the fact that this is not the time to give examples, we should mention those who are suffering from the Iraqi war against the Iranian revolution, the current and future effects of this war on the Arab struggle and how some Arab League member states have cooperated with its enemies. Camp David has revealed those enemies and their enemity and conspiracies against our nation and its major cause.

Our nation tried at the Baghdad and Tunis summits, as it did in other confrontation and steadfastness conferences and meetings, to draw up principles capable of defying and confronting their plots and designs.

In conclusion the paper says: While Syria is observing the brothers' consultations, it asserts its sound stand and call and is well aware of its position in the Arab nation and toward its enemies. Syria is also aware of the responsibilities dictated by this position. Syria is always prepared to adhere to this position on the pan-Arab level--a position which Syria adopted and continues to adopt as its ideal course.

REASSESSMENT OF U.S. MIDEAST POLICY SEEN AS 'TACTIC'

JN120819 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 12 Nov 80

[From the press review]

[Text] In the "Behind the News" corner, the newspaper TISHRIN comments on a possible comprehensive reassessment of the U.S. Middle East policy by new U.S. president Ronald Reagan's administration. In this respect, the paper says: Talk about a possible reassessment of the U.S. Middle East policy is not new but was reiterated, in one form or another, during the electoral campaigns, in view of the crushing defeat inflicted on the Camp David accords and the U.S. policy in the region. The reassessment indicated in this talk was not a stand of self-assessment by which to calculate the loss and profit balance, in order to change the basic objectives of the U.S. Middle East policy. It was some sort of tactic by which the U.S. administration wanted to gain time, confuse the ranks hostile to the Camp David accords and spread false hopes for a probable radical transformation in U.S. policy, which has aroused the Arab countries' antagonism.

Continuing its analysis of the scope of U.S.policy in the area, TISHRIN says: Although Reagan is not personally associated with the Camp David accords and although there is nothing to prevent him from undertaking efforts outside the framework of these accords, which have failed and reached a dead end, nobody expects this or any other U.S. administration to disregard the results sought by U.S. policy in its relations with As-Sadat's regime and Israel. This is an objective that has always been sought, though to no avail in U.S. policy.

Many in the West are talking about a possible linkage between the removal of Begin with As-Sadat's removal as well. Some in the Western press do not conceal the fact that Reagan cannot feel committed to any oral promises made by Carter to As-Sadat or to anyone else.

Such plans might and might not arise. However, there is no doubt that the Arabs cannot hope to receive their rights as a gift from anyone. The achievement of these rights cannot wait upon what others will do but depends upon what they do themselves.

ALGERIA

IRAN'S RAFSANJANI ARRIVES 17 NOV FOR VISIT

LD172110 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] The speaker of the Iranian Islamic Consultative Assembly, Rafsanjani, arrived at Houari Boumedienne international airport this evening on a visit to Algeria at the head of an important delegation. At the airport he was welcomed by Rabih Bitat, member of the Political Bureau and speaker of the National People's Assembly, deputy speakers and a number of members of the Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee.

LIBYA

MILITARY ENROLLMENT TERMS FOR STUDENTS OUTLINED

LD141535 Tripoli JANA in English 1444 GMT 14 Nov 80

["Announcement of the Acceptance of Arab Students at Different Military Colleges in the Jamahiriyah"--JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, 14 Nov (JANA)--Within the framework of the call for holy war (jihad) to confront military defiances and the fierce onslaught faced by our Arab nation from imperialism, Zionism and Arab reaction, and in affirmation of the right of every free Arab to train on arms to participate in the honour of defence of the Arab nation, liberating her holy places from all kinds of imperialist foreign existence, working to achieve her comprehensive unity and to make the day of establishment of the armed Muslim people nearer, the General Staff Command of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces announces the opening of enrollment for Arab students to join the following colleges:

1) The military college
2) The naval college
3) Air force college
4) Air defence college
5) The military college for girls

The following conditions should be observed by the applicant:

1) To be an Arab
2) His age to be no less than 17 years and not over 25 years
3) To have the general secondary certificate or any other equivalent certificate
4) To pass the scheduled medical examination
5) Not to be sentenced for a felony or an immoral misdemeanor.

The applicant should submit a written form enclosing the following documents:

1) Educational qualification certificate
2) Good conduct certificate
3) Photostat of passport, or travel document or identity card
4) Four photographs
5) Address in full

General Information

1) The applicant is granted a monthly allowance throughout the period of study.
2) The applicant will have a second lieutenant rank on graduation.

3) The applicant will be subject to all military laws and regulations applied in the armed forces.
4) If the applicant cannot obtain some required documents he can submit the application on condition that he undertakes to complete the documents at a later date.
5) Applicants are submitted to the General Staff Command or to the nearest camp or any Libyan Embassy or People's Bureau abroad.
6) The places mentioned in the previous item should be referred to for further clarification.

[signed] General Staff Command

EDITORIAL CALLS REAGAN FOREIGN POLICY 'FASCIST'

LD171818 Tripoli JANA in English 0912 GMT 17 Nov 80

["Political Editor on Reagan Fascist Policy"--JANA headline]

[Text] Tripoli, 17 Nov (JANA)--Our political editor commented on the fascist policy of U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan reiterated during his election campaign. Regarding the position of the American administration since the beginning of the U.S. imperialist attack against the Arab nation, he said the policy of the step by step initiated by Kissinger was the first to violate Arab sovereignty, threaten Arab destiny and disparage the national confrontation front. This was a preliminary step for the downfall of the Arab nation with all its fronts and strength. This is the policy pursued by the Carter administration at an early stage of the imperialist tide and which was characterised by encirclement and containment. It led to the downfall of many areas and positions at the hands of soldiers of the reactionary regimes whose duty turned out to be the handing of the Arab nation's keys to the Pentagon.

Despite everything the Carter era had stood for in the way of terrorism, flagrant intervention in the affairs of other countries and even direct military occupation of several Arab areas, Ronald Reagan insists that his administration will continue its fascist terrorist trends in the international area and in its dealings with other countries. This was clearly demonstrated in his statement and speeches during the recent presidential campaign.

According to Reagan the Arab Peninsula in particular, is the region which should serve as an advanced strategic position for U.S. military presence in the Middle East. He is also advocating that the Panama Canal should return under American control and impose U.S. control over the Carribean Sea by force.

Reagan, moreover, is promising direct intervention in what Latin America had been witnessing [as received] alongside the dictatorial regimes in Chile, Salvador, Bolivia, Argentina and especially Nicaragua where Reagan has threatened to halt its progressive revolution.

Some have interpreted these terrorist pronuncements as being mere rhetoric designed to win votes in the struggle for presidential power. Yet this interpretention has proven ill founded. The post-election victory (?period) has been characterised by intensive meetings of Reagan with military leaders and Pentagon officials known for their extreme views and (?commitment) to the manufacture of the neutron bomb.

Reagan's leanings are based on a policy that relies fascist militarism in all walks of life including the management of the economy. In fact, Reagan has decided on proving a direct link between U.S. oil companies and the Department of Defense, slowly decreasing the attachment of the companies at present with the Department of Energy.

Reagan has also called for reconsideration of the SALT agreement signed with the Soviet Union, even hinting at their total abrogation. He has chosen to employ as his advisors military specialists known for their involvement in war, intervention and espionage activities.

The looming danger to world peace and security heaalded by the new American president which threaten the freedom and independence of people has been met with considerable criticism even inside America. U.S. unions expressed extreme anxiety at Reagan's election who is considered by the working masses as nothing but an organic extention to the capitalist police state. It is elementary that the Arabs should have a stand. We, the revolutionary Arabs, do have a daring and definite stance vis-a-vis the U.S. policy, not only before Reagan officially announed its military terrorist character but also when the American administration cloaked itself with its traditionally hostile position towards the Arab nation.

Policy has changed from the time of John Foster Dulles, whom Reagan intends to bring back into the White House and whose policy distinguished itself in hostility and deception, to the present with Reagan's plan to consolidate U.S. military presence which thereby deals a blow to the Arab nation. As if U.S. bases across the triangle of danger and terror in Egypt, Somali, Oman etc. is not sufficient (?for) Reagan. He still finds it necessary that American should have complete protection for its forces in the Arab region.

MOROCCO

MOROCCO'S POSITION ON ARAB SUMMIT UNCHANGED

LD151435 Rabat MAP in English 1208 GMT 15 Nov 80

[Text] Rabat, 15 Nov (MAP)--Morocco's position concerning the holding of the Arab summit in Amman has not changed, authorized sources at the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation reported here Friday. This position, added the same sources, follows from the Arab summit of Baghdad which decided to hold annual summits and from the last summit of Tunis which decided that the coming summit would take place in Amman.

SUDAN

FOREIGN MINISTRY EXPELS CUBAN DIPLOMAT 17 NOV

LD171256 Khartoum SUNA in English 1052 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Khartoum, 17 Nov (SUNA)--Cuba's charge d'affaires here was asked today to leave the country as persona non grata, Foreign Ministry sources here said.

Mr (Heridertion) Fernandez who arrived here two months ago to look over the opening of a Cuban Consulate Embassy here was summoned today to the Foreign Ministry and was told of the government decision. He was given 72 hours to leave the country, the sources said.

TUNISIA

OFFICIAL DESCRIBES BORDER INTRUSION BY LIBYAN UNIT

LD171802 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Excerpts] We begin this newscast by speaking about the situation prevailing on the Tunisian-Libyan border: Mr Mahmoud Mestiri, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, this afternoon gave a press conference to which representatives of the national and foreign press were invited.

At the start of the conference Mr Mahmoud Mestiri said that yesterday, Sunday, 16 November 1980, an incident took place on the Tunisian-Libyan border when a national army patrol surprised three Libyans in a police car equipped with telecommunication equipment in the area of Ayn al-Fard near Sidi at-Tawi, 3.5 km inside Tunisian territory. When summoned to surrender, the patrol drove back into Libyan territory under the fire of the Tunisian patrol. As yet it is not known whether the Libyan patrol suffered any casualties.

This incident was not the first of its kind: On 27 July 1980 there was another incident when a Libyan patrol of three military personnel was arrested on Tunisian territory at Jadlawin, north of Sidi at-Tawi. This patrol belonged to Unit 118 of the reconnaissance armored units based in Sabratah. A group of this unit is in Al Assah, some 12 km from the Tunisian borders. The three soldiers were Cpl Saad Mosbah, Pfc El Amari Lajili, and Pfc Mohamed Abdelhedi. Furthermore, on 1 September 1980, on the occasion of the Libyan national day, anxious to bring about a better atmosphere of neighbourliness, the Tunisian authorities handed over the three soldiers to the Libyan authorities. That was despite the fact that the Libyan authorities continued to forcibly enlist young Tunisian workers into Libyan Army training camps.

At the same time it is worth noting that despite the large territory of the Jamahiriyah, Libya chose the region known as Al Watiyah, just 18 km from our borders, to build a huge airbase called the 11 June base. This base shelters no less than 40 fighter-bombers and about 20 attack helicopters equipped with extremely sophisticated missiles. Moreover, other offensive equipment was set up near our borders, including a large number of armored cars, troop carriers and heavy guns. It is to be noted that all this equipment is absolutely of an offensive nature. It is also worth noting that the Libyans have deployed landing craft not far from our shores. This situation is rather alarming. In view of the preoccupation of the Tunisian Government and its concern over this situation, I wanted to state the facts without exaggeration. We are concerned at the frequency of these incidents, which we cannot accept. We want to express to the Libyan authorities our hope that they take the necessary measures likely to prevent the recurrence of such infiltration into Tunisian territory.

After this statement, Mr Mahmoud Mestiri answered newsmen's questions. In reply to a question on what Tunisia intends to do at the diplomatic level after the incident of 16 November 1980, Mr Mahmoud Mestiti said that for the time being no direct moves are to be made, but we must be more vigilant, and we hope that these infiltration operations will not be repeated. Hitherto, we have been vigilant indeed and we have successfully countered all Libyan infiltrations into Tunisian territory. All we want now is to make the Libyan Government realize the danger that arises from creating this situation and persisting in these actions.

At this stage we are taking diplomatic action in order to draw the attention of Libyan Government officials to the danger represented by such operations, and to make them realize that they are unacceptable and we do not want to see such infiltration repeated. Therefore, this evening I am meeting the charge d'affaires of the Libyan Jamahiriyah Embassy in order to convey to him our position.

Replying to a question on the objective of the Libyan patrol that infiltrated into Tunisian territory on 27 July 1980, Mr Mahmoud Mestiri said: I have no detailed information enabling me to answer this question. In any case, the fact was that military personnel deliberately infiltrated into Tunisian territory to a distance that leaves no room for doubt, and it should be noted that every time such infiltration operations take place and the military perpetrators are caught by us, they pretend that they infiltrated by mistake, because the region is all desert. This is their usual pretext which they claimed in their infiltration last July.

To a question on whether Tunisia intends raising this question at the forthcoming Arab summit in Amman, Mahmoud Mestiri said: I believe that one of the objectives of the Arab summit is to clarify the situation among Arab states. We are not the only one wanting problems resolved in order to establish sound relations among all Arab states, especially neighboring countries. This question is not on the agenda.

However, I am sure that we will seize the opportunity of the presence of the Libyan side and other Arab sides to discuss this topic and will work to restore relations to what they should be at all times, namely, relations based on neighborliness.

Answering questions about the tension along the Tunisian border and on the situation in Chad, which has raised Tunisia's anxiety, Mahmoud Mestiri said: We do not look for a link between (?these two issues), yet a link imposes itself as there is coincidence in timing which has drawn the attention of everybody. I do not believe that infiltration took place because of the situation in Chad. It took place despite the fact that Libya seems to have interfered in Chad.

Answering a newsman who asked for more details on Tunisia's anxiety over the prevailing situation in Chad, Mahmoud Mestiri said: We have indeed submitted a note to the African group at the United Nations. President Habib Bourguiba is personally preoccupied with developments in Chad as the civil war has assumed major dimensions and foreign interference has aggravated the situation. This causes the anxiety of all the region's countries in view of the geographic and strategic allocation of that country. President Habib Bourguiba expressed his preoccupation to several African heads of state, especially President Senghor, with whom he exchanged messages to consider what had been agreed upon.

A newsman asked whether Tunisia had advised Algeria of the situation within the framework of consultations among Maghreb countries. The secretary general of the Foreign Ministry said: We are in contact with the Algerian officials concerning everything that interests and preoccupies us. There is nothing that can justify the exception of this particular point.

Answering a question on his opinion concerning Libyan reaction reported by JANA to the effect that Tunisia had interfered when it reported on the prevailing situation in Chad to the African group at the United Nations, Mahmoud Mestiri said:

I believe that talking about Tunisia's interference in the affairs of Chad and keeping silent over the Libyan interference identifies the person who made that statement, especially as he is known for his very close ties with the Libyan regime. Tunisia has no intention of interfering in Chad's internal affairs. When we raise this topic today, we do so only to address an appeal to stop the civil war which, unfortunately is growing due to very serious foreign military interference. This is what we want to raise and not Chad affairs.

FOREIGN MINISTER STRESSES NEED FOR ARAB SUMMIT

LD171029 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 14 Nov 80 p 1

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureau report: "Arab Summit To Be Held for Whoever Attends; Tunisian Foreign Minister: We Are Supposed To Face Problems, Not Avoid Them"]

[Excerpts] Tunis, Amman--The crisis over convening the Arab summit continued to develop yesterday following contradictory reports about requests from several Arab countries that it be postponed to a later date. But yesterday afternoon, following high-level Arab contacts, the inclination was to convene the summit in Amman 25 November, as scheduled, regardless of which Arab countries attend it.

A well-informed source has confirmed this, saying that the present disagreements between the Arab countries should be all the more reason for convening the summit.

Replying to a question from ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT on this subject, Tunisian Foreign Minister Hassan Belkhodja said that Bourguiba's method is to rely on contacts, dialogue and consultation to analyze and confront problems, rather than to avoid them in the hope that the passage of time will produce solutions for them. Since the Arab summit was decided upon long time ago, it is our view and our desire that it should be held on schedule, or shortly afterwards. What is important is that the meeting be held to discuss our differences and crises and deal with them by finding suitable solutions. We are in favor not only of convening the Arab summit but also of convening the Islamic summit, scheduled to be held in Mecca next month, so that we will have several opportunities to resolve differences and find solutions for problems in Arab and Islamic relations.

The Tunisian foreign minister concluded: Even if there is a postponement, we hope that there will be no cancellation of the meeting, the convening of which remains a necessity.

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that consultations are continuing between Tunisia and the Arab Maghreb countries on this subject.

BEGIN SHORTENS U.S. VISIT TO ATTEND KNESSET VOTE

TA180926 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Text] The prime minister is cutting short his visit to the United States in the hope that he will be able to be present for the Knesset vote on the no-confidence motions. This has been learned by our correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer. Therefore, Menahem Begin will return to Israel tomorrow. Correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli reports that that Kensset committee has now been discussing for 2 hours whether the vote will be held today or tomorrow.

19 Nov Vote

TA181105 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Text] The vote on the motions of no-confidence will only be held tomorrow. This was decided by the Knesset committee following a stormy and exhausting debate. The Alignment representatives walked out of the committee's session in protest when their parliamentary maneuver--retrieving the motion of no-confidence submitted today by their faction--did not go through. The Alignment had hoped that when only the motion submitted by the Tehiya faction yesterday remained on the agenda, the committee would be required, according to the Knesset's regulations, to hold the vote today. However, the coalition produced another clause in the Knesset regulations stating that the Knesset committee was permitted to set the Knesset's agenda according to its own considerations.

Knesset correspondent Arye Golan reports that in the wake of the committee's decision the Alignment will again submit its motion of no-confidence. It will be discussed tomorrow jointly with the motions submitted by Hatehiya and Hadash.

BEGIN INTERVIEWED ON RELATIONS WITH U.S., REAGAN

TA142034 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1820 GMT 14 Nov 80

[Interview granted by Prime Minister Menahem Begin to U.S. correspondent Dan Raviv in New York on 13 November--videotaped]

[Text] [Raviv] [Question] With regard to the next 2 or 3 months, as long as Carter is in office, is there a chance for some kind of progress in the autonomy talks? Is there a chance for a summit meeting?

[Answer] There should be a chance for progress, and there will be a meeting on 17 November. As for a summit meeting, I cannot say anything substantial now because there is no decision. This depends on President Carter and there is no decision on this matter.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, among other occasions, you met once or twice with Richard Allen, who is the representative of President-elect Reagan. Did these meetings clarify some issues related to Reagan's intentions about the Middle East?

[Answer] No. I met Richard Allen a few months ago in Israel. We held a very long conversation and we talked about the different issues. I expressed my opinion. My colleague, the agriculture minister was also with me and he explained to him the problem of settlement in the territories. We were pleased to hear the statement of the president-elect that in his opinion the settlements were entirely legal. This is something we have been claiming all the time. We never had any doubt. But it is good that these things were said and it is good that after the election it was stated again that this murderous organization, the PLO, is a terrorist organization and should be treated as such. This time we had a very brief, social meeting, an exchange of words. We did not discuss any topic of political significance.

[Question] Has he brought you any kind of message from Reagan?

[Answer] Yes, greetings. Several of the president-elect's colleagues and aides brought me greetings from him and I reciprocated.

[Question] Has any meeting been scheduled between you and Reagan for the foreseeable future?

[Answer] Not during this visit. But once he assumes office, if he invites me I will act as I did 3 and 1/2 years ago. I will willingly accept the invitation and will come.

[Question] In your opinion, when Reagan enters office, will Israel and the United States have to reassess the complexity of their relations, perhaps hold strategic evaluations? Military maneuvers are currently underway between the United States and Egypt.

[Answer] This is a separate question. Certainly it would be desirable to reevaluate. We must be armed with patience. We cannot press too hard. This is a transition period. Representatives of the president-elect have been working in various administration departments to prepare for the change of administration. Everything has its proper timing.

[Question] Some concern has been expressed with regard to the relations between Israel and the Republican Party. Do you think that things will be difficult for us during the Reagan administration?

[Answer] Why should we talk about concerns? America is a large nation. It has made its choice. As I noticed today, the President has accepted this choice with profound understanding. This is because he is a democrat. I was very much impressed with his attitude. This is the decision of the people, and I accept it. And other nations do, too. We accept the decision of the people, so why should we express misgivings? Everybody is talking about the fact that we are allies, we stand together, we have common interests in the Middle East and we have common ideals. I hear that from every direction. Let us look forward to the future with confidence. Why talk about fears? I do not think there is need for that.

[Question] Mr Begin, much criticism has been voiced against your visit with outgoing President Carter. In retrospect, do you think that the visit was justified?

[Answer] I have emphasized that this was a private visit. The main purpose of this visit was to honor the memory of Ze'ev Jabotinsky on the 100th anniversary of his birth. I was invited by the members of the [Jewish] federations and I agreed to come. I called the president after an agreement had been reached to resume the negotiations--severed by Egypt, not by us--and I congratulated him on this agreement. I informed him that I will be visiting the United States in November. Then he invited me to come to the White House. I accepted his invitation. I could not do otherwise. What should I have done? Turn down the invitation or cancel it because the election has taken place? It was only natural. It is a good thing that this meeting took place. I am very pleased that I saw the President. We held a conversation and I was impressed with his attitude. The entire situation is, obviously, a so-called transition period, in accordance with the U.S. Constitution. Everybody understands this, but there was no reason at all why we should refrain from meeting. I think the meeting was constructive.

[Raviv] Thank you.

EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON U.S. VISIT

TA141210 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Nov 80 p 20

[Interview granted in Cairo by Egyptian Foreign Minister Gen Karmal Hasan 'Ali to 'Oded Granot--date not given]

[Text] [Question] You are going to Washington at the beginning of next month. It has been reported that President as-Sadat has given you directives concerning his meetings with the staff of the new administration. Who are you going to meet in Washington and what do you intend to say to them?

[Answer] This is a natual move--to go to Washington after the election has been held there and after new people have been appointed to the key posts. First of all we must thank all those members of the previous administration who cooperated with us very seriously and admirably over the last 3 years.

Afterward we may hold contacts in Washington with several people who have been appointed to key posts, or who will be appointed by the time I go there. The purpose is to consult with them about the peace process over the coming period, both for the purpose of mutual cooperation between Egypt and the United States and in order to hear their positions on the issue most important to Egypt, Israel and the United States, that is, the autonomy negotiations. I will try to examine the administration's views on the area, discuss the U.S. role in the developments here and present our views concerning regional defense against any attack from abroad.

[Question] Can you mention the names of any people in the new administration you would like to meet in Washington? Dr Kissinger? General Haig?

[Answer] Dr Kissinger, of course; also General Haig, Richard Allen, Simon--and possibly also former President Gerald Ford. I am not sure all these meetings will be held, but I will try to organize this.

[Question] Do you intend to present new positions to the new administration? New ideas on the autonomy issue, or on the matter of the bilateral relations?

[Answer] No. We are committed to everything we agreed upon in the autonomy talks, and we have our principles in the negotiations. There is nothing new in our positions, but I may present them again to the new administration.

[Question] Cairo has recently been speaking about an Egyptian "working paper" on the autonomy issue, one you intend to present to the new administration. Can you disclose its content?

[Answer] As I said, this is a summing up of everything achieved over 18 months of deliberations and a script for the future process of the talks, to be adopted by the new administration. That is: the Egyptian viewpoint on the future process.

[Question] Will you, for example, propose that the tripartite summit be held under the aegis of the new administration?

[Answer] I think this will be discussed when Carter and Reagan meet to discuss that issue. For the moment I am not expected to discuss this issue, but perhaps, when I go to Washington in December, I will already be able to discuss it.

[Question] Do you still adhere to the idea of a summit meeting?

[Answer] Of course.

[Question] We get the impression that Egypt is to a certain degree concerned about the possibility of also keeping the relations created with the Carter administration with the Reagan administration. Vice President Mubarak is promising to continue giving the Americans installations in Egypt and he stresses that this is not a matter between presidents of states but one of friendship between nations....

[Answer] We are not at all concerned about this, that is, the matter of the bilateral relations between us and the United States. It is no secret that President as-Sadat's policy is admired in the United States--both by the Republicans and the Democrats. This could be felt in the debates in the Congress, the State Department, everywhere. Because of this we are not worried about the new administration adopting a different approach to Egypt. Not at all.

[Question] In all fields? In the military and economic fields?

[Answer] In every field.

[Question] Or do you expect the Reagan administration to be "more generous" in giving Egypt military aid, because of the common camp you indicated. That is: the aim of containing Soviet expansion.

[Answer] I think it is most possible that Reagan will increase aid to Egypt. This is because it is in the interest of Egypt--which is now being surrounded by Soviet influence, and it is in the interest of the United States--to have a country with the same strategy. Egypt is playing this role in the area.

[Question] Joint maneuvers with the U.S. forces are beginning this week in Egypt. Has anything changed in the program of maneuvers in the wake of the change of administration in the United States?

[Answer] That is a question of policy. Not a president's personal policy but the policy of Egypt and the United States.

[Question] In an interview in AL-AHRAM you said that President-elect Reagan must regard Egypt as the country with the greatest strategic impportance in the area. Does he really regard Egypt in this way?

[Answer] I am not speaking about personal policy. I think that not only does the president think like this, so does the Congress, the State Department and the Pentagon. All of them are included in the definition "decisionmakers" and all of them have their own views (on the matter of relations with Egypt). Of course the president is the one to decide.

[Question] Will you propose new ideas in Washington about expanding military cooperation? About giving the Americans more installations?

[Answer] We laid out all the possibilities and "benefits" from the very beginning. There is nothing to add and we will continue with this policy.

[Question] The Western press mentions various sums of money the Americans intend to invest in developing the Ra's Banas port, on the Red Sea coast. Some mention $200 million and some $2 billion.

[Answer] The sums of money are not so large. All I can say is that we have our base, aerial and naval, in Ra's Banas and in order to establish installations for the Americans there, they must deepen the water port and add several runways to the airfield. They will invest money for the purpose of establishing these installations.

[Question] Is there already an agreement about the start of the work?

[Answer] They requested and we agreed. But they may have to wait for the approval of Congress. I think that as soon as they get the approval of the congress they will start work at once, since the general plans have already been prepared.

[Question] You told AL-AHRAM that the deliberations on the completion of the withdrawal from Sinai will begin in April 1981. Several countries have already expressed their agreement to join the "peacekeeping force." What is Egypt's position on the matter of the force's composition?

[Answer] We are prepared for UN forces, a multinational force or any other force we can decide about. But we should decide together with the United States about the ways and means to implement this clause in the treaty.

[Question] What is the committee for Israel-Egypt normalization dealing with at the moment?

[Answer] As As-Sadat promised President Navon, it has been agreed that not only Israelis but also tourists visiting Israel will be able to continue to visit St Catherine's. A land route for the passage of goods is now being discussed. We need to widen the roads at several "bottlenecks" along the road leading to St Catherine's. This will require about 3 months.

[Question] The first meeting between the Egyptian National Democratic Party and the leaders of the Israeli Labor Party is to end this week in Cairo. What importance do you attribute to this meeting?

[Answer] You know that the invitation came first from OCTOBER and after that came the invitation from our party. It is extremely logical that the party here should discuss all the issues with the party in Israel. This is one of the ways for people to get to know each other.

The same applies to the delegation our party will send to Israel to meet with the different parties. The visit has already been decided upon in principle but further discussions will be held about the arrangements and the date.

[Question] What are your impressions of the visit by the Labor Party delegation?

[Answer] ...There are several differences in views.

[Question] Is the "Jordanian option" one of them?

[Answer] We cannot speak about the incorporation of King Husayn until we complete the establishment of the self-governing authority. Then, after a transition period, King Husayn can join in. We are not opposed to the King's incorporation into the process and when we come to the establishment of the autonomy, as agreed upon, the Palestinians will decide what they decide. If they choose the "Jordanian option"--that will be their decision.

[Question] General 'Ali, what is your script for the normalization?

[Answer] There is great sensitivity on your part to the development of the normalization process, while Egypt regards it as something most normal. It is clear that we could not, for example, begin with communications cables of 1,000 channels. We began with 12, after 24, after 36 and so on. It grew gradually, in accordance with the size of the communications channels commerce and so on.

The same applies to the flights. We began with flights--two to Israel and two to Egypt. Today the number has increased and there are four to Israel--and we will ask for the same number for the Egyptian company.

Now it is the turn of commerce. At first we did not know each other. We did not know what you could sell here and what we could sell in Israel. Now commerce has increased greatly, and this is a fact.

You are in a mood to rush, you are enthusiastic about commercial agreements. Allow me to remind you that for 100 years no commercial agreements were signed between us and Britain. The development of commercial ties and all the rest is a gradual natural process.

[Question] You said, on the matter of Jerusalem, in an Egyptian paper, that President-elect Reagan must solve the problem for the sake of 800 million Muslims....

[Answer] ...Who are standing firm against communism.

[Question] How will the U.S. President do this?

[Answer] The United States is a partner to the talks and it is an active partner. Jerusalem must be negotiated.

[Question] Will Israel and Egypt be able to achieve a solution to the Jerusalem problem without U.S. partnership?

[Answer] If we succeed--it will be no problem to incorporate even a third party in the solution. In my view, the matter is not so complicated and President as-Sadat's proposal on this matter (meaning the establishment of separate municipalities in Jerusalem and a common umbrella municipality) is very logical and serves the interests of all the faiths.

[Question] But it is not acceptable to Israel....

[Answer] It not only involves Israel, but the Muslims and the Christians....

[Question] Why did Butrus Ghali cancel his visit to Jerusalem?

[Answer] He did not cancel it. He only asked for his meetings with Minister Shamir and other officials in the Israeli administration to be held in any other town in Israel, other than Jerusalem.

[Question] Because of the Jerusalem law?

[Answer] Because of Israel's approach to Jerusalem. Yes, because of the law.

[Question] And if the law had not existed--would Butrus Ghali go to Jerusalem?

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] What will happen, if this is the case? The law will not be cancelled and Minister Shamir will not deviate from his custom of meeting foreign ministers and other personalities only in Jerusalem. Is there any way of bringing this meeting about?

[Answer] You must decide for yourselves. Again, this is not our problem, but yours. You created a problem and you must cope with it.

[Question] We could argue about who started the problem. But if matters remain as they are, will there be no meeting?

[Answer] It will not be held.

[Question] On another topic--there have been rumors about upcoming changes in the Government of Egypt, about changes in the top echelons of the press.

[Answer] With regard to the government--they are only rumors.

ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN MILITARY COMMITTEE RESUMES TALKS

TA171034 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 17 Nov 80 p 3

[Text] Yesterday the Israeli-Egyptian military committee resumed its deliberations in Tel Aviv. Its agenda included the arrangements for supervision in Sinai, the continuation of the hunt for missing soldiers from the Yom Kippur war, tourism arrangements for St Catherine's and other topics.

The committee's deliberations are being held in a special office set up for this purpose and will last for 3 days. Next time the deliberations will be held in Egypt and after that, in Israel again. The Israeli-Egyptian committee meets regularly, once every few weeks.

Several thousand Israeli pounds [as published] have been invested in the office for the committee's deliberations. The Israeli delegation's offices are situated in the cellar of one of the public buildings in Tel Aviv, and there is no room there to hold the discussions.

CHIEF OF STATE VIEWS IMPACT OF IRAN-IRAQ WAR

TA181020 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Excerpt] The chief of staff has said that the Iranians attempted to bomb the nuclear reactor in Iraq two or three times but did not inflict any damage. Because of these attempts the French experts left Iraq and the operation of the reactor was postponed, Eytan said. The chief of staff emphasized that the operation of the reactor was only dependent on the return of the French experts or, eventually, the Iraqis may decide to operate it themselves. Lieutenant General Eytan was speaking at Haifa University.

The chief of staff warned that the threat posed to Israel has not decreased in the wake of the Iran-Iraq war. We should not bask in complacency and rush to conclusions which might prove disastrous. He added that Israel could not count on an umbrella to protect us because the West was impotent and could not send several divisions as the Soviet Union did in Afghanistan.

OFFICIALS DENY REPORT OF ARMS DEAL WITH PRC

TA171021 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Israeli spokesmen today strongly denied that Israel is selling or is about to sell arms to China. A report to this effect was published by the U.S. weekly NEWSWEEK, which alleges that Israel is already selling arms in considerable quantities to China and is about to sign a new contract with Beijing for $2 billion. Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori said Israel has no deals with China and certainly not arms deals. The Foreign Ministry spokesman also said that the report is without any foundation.

JABALYAH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN ASSASSINATED 18 NOV

TA181115 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 18 Nov 80

[Text] The chairman of the Jabalyah local council, Muhammad (Abu-Warda), was assassinated in the Gaza Strip this morning. Correspondent Bassam Ja'bar reports that it was assumed the murder was politically motivated. The murderer entered the local council building and shot (Abu-Warda) with a gun at close range. A curfew has been imposed on Jabalyah and the security forces are combing the area.

ETHIOPIA

SOMALI DENIAL OF INVOLVEMENT IN KENYA REJECTED

LD151936 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 15 Nov 80 EA

[Text] A spokesman of the Ministry of Information and National Guidance today described as totally unconvincing and unbelievable the Somali Government's denial that it was involved in the attack carried out by bandits deployed by the Mogadishu ruling clique in the North-Eastern Province of Kenya.

The Ministry of Information and National Guidance described the denial of the Somali Government as totally without credence in his comment on the Mogadishu radio report echoing the denial of the Somali Government concerning the acts of bandits armed and sent by the Mogadishu regime which launched sudden attacks on the administrative center of northeastern Kenya, killing six officials of the Kenyan Government last Monday.

In the statement by the spokesman this afternoon, he said that the denial of the Somali Government was a futile attempt to cover up the truth, which is characteristic of Siad Barre's regime. Whatever is being said by the propaganda instruments of the Somali Government, which has laid down its expansionist aims in its constitution and has such a policy, cannot be trusted by the world, the spokesman noted.

In an additional statement in this connection, the ministry spokesman said that relations between Socialist Ethiopia and the Republic of Kenya were based on good neighborliness and cooperation and their relations would continue on the same path, unlike relations between Somalia and its neighbors, because of the adventurist policy of the Siad Barre regime. The spokesman added that the futile attempt of the reactionary Somali ruling clique to blame Ethiopia for the tragic incident committed in the North-Eastern Province was completely unacceptable.

ERITREAN LEADER CONDEMNS ASSASSINATION IN KHARTOUM

NC171546 Doha QNA in Arabic 1340 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 17 Nov (QNA)--Osman Saleh Sabbe, the leader of the Eritrean Popular Liberation Forces, has condemned the assassination of Osman 'Ajib in Khartoum the day before yesterday, saying that he considered this a crime against the Eritrean revolution and a method not used by the Eritrean revolution.

In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Khartoum, Sabbe said that no Eritrean group has ever resorted to the method of physical liquidation outside Eritrea. Therefore, we question the objectives of the recent assassination.

Sabbe, however, said that the aim of the assassination is clear: Hurting the relations between the Eritrean revolution and Sudan. This, he said, can only be done by the enemies of the revolution, but he did not clearly specify who these enemies are.

'Ajib, together with another Eritrean rebel, Osman Jibril, was killed the day before yesterday when an unidentified person shot them in front of the hotel where they were staying in Khartoum.

It is recalled that 'Ajib had proclaimed himself last year as the leader of the Eritrean Liberation Front--the Popular Liberation forces--in what appeared to be a coup against the front's leader, Osman Saleh Sabbe.

In his statement, Sabbe further said that the Popular Liberation Forces adhere to the principle of the democratic dialogue which the revolutionary council approved this year. He said that he hoped this dialogue would lead to a firm agreement and would help put an end to the civil war between the revolutionary council and the popular front. He said that he had officially applied to the Sudanese Government to intervene to put an end to this war and pointed out that he personally was seeking this.

Commenting on the forthcoming visit this Tuesday by Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri to Ethiopia, Sabbe said that he was confident that the discussions to be held between Presidents Numayri and Mengistu would deal with the Eritrean problem as the main issue of concern to their countries. He said that 2 days ago, he submitted a memorandum to President Numayri on the advent of his departure to Addis Ababa, affirming that his organization approves the principle of unconditional negotiations between the Eritrean revolution, represented in a unified delegation, and the Ethiopian Government.

KENYA

VICE PRESIDENT, FOREIGN MINISTER ADDRESS PARLIAMENT

LD141318 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1825 GMT 13 Nov 80 EA

[Excerpts] Parliament was adjourned sine die this evening, following the approval of a motion of adjournment moved by the vice president and minister for finance, Mr Mwai Kibaki, which was approved by the house after a 3-hour debate.

Moving the motion, Mr Kibaki exhorted MPs, as leaders of the nation, to cultivate a sense of unity and a spirit of reconciliation where there have been antagonistic forces.

Speaking in a strong language, the vice president said that his excellency the president had shown the way and all leaders should follow his footsteps. Mr Kibaki said that we cannot build the country by dwelling on the past, but rather by looking to the future to build a basis for a prosperous nation. He said that leaders had the obligation to cultivate a spirit to build a strong nation, moulded on hopes for a better future, instead of engaging in futile actions. He said that at no other time in the history of this country has a spirit of nationhood been so stressed by the president, and the people are showing a willingness to forego their tribal groupings in the interests of national unity. Kenyans, he said, have now a magnificent opportunity to consolidate the nation.

Mr Kibaki called on MP's to set examples to the people they lead by encouraging them to grow more food to feed the nation. On its part, Mr Kibaki continued, the government will continue to review farmers' prices in order to give them incentives. He said that the nation must work towards self-reliance in food sufficiency, by engaging in productive labor. He told the house that parliament might have to be recalled before the end of the year if the need arose; otherwise the house may have to be reconvened early next year.

The minister for foreign affairs, Dr Robert Ouko, confined his remarks on the country's foreign policy.

He welcomed the assurance given by the Somali ambassador that Somalia did not have any claims on Kenya's territory. He said that Kenya has the desire to live in peace with her neighbors.

Talking about the Kenya-Uganda relations, Dr Ouko said that Kenyans wished Uganda well in its forthcoming elections which will be held in December this year. Dr Ouko said that Kenya and Uganda have the same desires and inspirations and a common destiny, and should live harmoniously as neighbors. Dr Ouko also touched on the situation in Namibia. He said he hoped that the talks to be held soon between the South African Government and SWAPO will result in (?true) independence for Namibia. He hoped that Namibia will join the rest of the free world as an independent nation and member of the UN.

Talking about the situation in the Middle East, the foreign minister said that the war between Iraq and Iran and the precarious state of affairs in the Gulf area were a great threat to world peace. He said that the war between Iraq and Iran did not serve any good and was only causing harm and destruction. Dr Ouko said that in the event of a global disaster and confrontation, all nations would suffer and not necessarily the small nations. He said that even the richer nations should not be complacement as a global confrontation would engulf all the nations, irrespective of their riches. He hoped that the forthcoming global talks will come up with solutions that will make the world a better place to live in.

MINISTER SPEAKS ON SECURITY IN NORTH-EASTERN PROVINCE

LD142213 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 Nov 80 EA

[Text] The minister of state in the president's office in charge of internal security, Mr G.G. Kariuki, today made a flying visit to the North-Eastern Province and addressed a huge baraza in Garissa town. He told wananchi at the baraza that the curfew imposed in the province by the government will continue until the security situation returns to normal. He emphasized that the government will not rest until all the shifta bandits who were interrupting peace in the province are apprehended and brought to book. The minister was accompanied on the tour by a large number of senior government officials and his colleague, the minister of state in the president's office, Mr Nicholas Biwott. Talking about the seriousness of the security situation in the province, Mr Kariuki said that as long as shifta bandits continued killing innocent people in North-Eastern Province, millions of shillings which would have gone into developing the province are spent on maintaining law and order and containing the security situation. He appealed for cooperation from all law-abiding residents of the province to assist the government in fighting the shifta menace. He stressed that President Moi's government advocates for peace, love and unity.

Appealing for cooperation from all residents of the province in stamping out the shifta menace, Mr Kariuki urged all residents to report shiftas and their agents to the authorities. The minister appealed to secondary students who had deserted their classes to return to their respective schools since the government had provided the necessary security for them. He appealed for cooperation between the armed forces and the local people during the curfew period to ensure that innocent wananchi are not harassed. Mr Kariuki said the Kenya Government will not surrender an inch of her soil to any country and the boundaries of Kenya will remain intact. The huge crowd assured the minister that they would cooperate fully to ensure all shifta bandits are rooted out, and by a show of hands pledged their loyalty to the government led by President Moi. They said they belong to Kenya and have no intention of crossing over to a neighboring country. Others in the minister's party were Mr Nicholas Biwott, a minister of state in the president's office; an assistant minister in the same office, Mr Justice Ole Tipis; the commissioner of police, Mr Ben Gethi; and the permanent secretary in the president's office, Mr Njuguna.

CAMEROON

NIGER'S KOUNTCHE ENDS VISIT; JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

AB111544 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 11 Nov 80

[Text] Niger President Seyni Kountche leaves Marua later today at the end of an official visit to Cameroon. During the visit, President Kountche and his Cameroonian host, Ahmadou Ahidjo, held discussions on current world problems and bilateral cooperation. The two leaders signed a final communique this morning pledging to intensify their cooperation ties and condemning foreign adventurism in Africa. For more we call on our correspondent in Marua:

This morning at 1000 a joint communique was signed and read by the two presidents, Col Seyni Kountche of Niger and Ahmadou Ahidjo of Cameroon. And those signatures officially put an end to the 3-day friendly and working visit here by the Niger head of state. The joint communique was read out by the foreign minister of Niger, Mr Daouda Diallo and dealt in large measure with a review of the international situation and in particular the turbulent African scene, more especially the war in Chad which [word indistinct] and affect Niger and Cameroon.

Presidents Seyni Kountche and Ahmadou Ahidjo deplored the foreign incitement and involvement in the fratricidal conflict in Chad which only helps to prolong the fighting and to increase the already deplorable tension there. They expressed the hope that the efforts of the ad hoc OAU Committee on the conflict would be successful so that peace and reconciliation can return to Chad. The heads of state issued a call to the disputing factions in Chad in the high interest of the people of that country to put an end to the mournful situation there.

Presidents Ahmadou Ahidjo and Seyni Kountche reaffirmed their determination through the OAU, the United Nations and other international bodies to ensure that Namibia accedes to independence and that the odious policy of apartheid is eliminated and the people of that country, Azania, allowed to rule in majority.

In connection with economic cooperation among African states the two leaders underlined the necessity of an economic regrouping among African countries and in this regard expressed satisfaction at the beneficial result of the Lagos committee of which both are members. They renewed their faith in nonalignment, which permits the Third World in general and African states more specifically to guard their independence and to help bring their own contribution in the maintenance of peace and international security.

Presidents Ahidjo and Seyni Kountche condemned the dubious policy of the developed nations recently exhibited at the 11th United Nations session which was consecrated to the international economic situation and again called for the institution of a new world economic order.

They expressed concern over the situation in the Middle East, especially the war between Iraq and Iran, as a threat not only to peace and security in that region but also to the world at large.

[Words indistinct] the two heads of state congratulated themselves on the warm relations existing between the two countries and hoped further to sign a friendship and cooperation treaty. A mixed commission has accordingly been created to orientate and to oversee the objectives contained in the friendship and cooperation treaty.

President Ahidjo congratulated and encouraged the tireless efforts of his Niger counterpart, His Excellency Col Seyni Kountche, in combatting drought in the Sahel and the plan to master the exploitation of the natural resources of Niger.

On his part, the president of the Supreme Military Council, head of State of Niger, Col Seyni Kountche, expressed profound appreciation for the success of the people of Cameroon in all fields and the great National Union Party, the CNU, under the enlightened leadership of his excellency Ahmadou Ahidjo. The Niger leader thanked the president of the United Republic of Cameroon, his government and people, in particular the population of the town of Marua for the warm welcome accorded him and members of his delegation. President Seyni Kountche extended an invitation to President Ahidjo to visit Niger, an invitation that was accepted with pleasure, and the date of that visit will be fixed through normal diplomatic channels.

That joint communique marks the formal end of the 3-day friendly and working visit here by President Seyni Kountche of Niger. President Kountche has just left Marua a few minutes ago.

CHAD

KAMOUGUE, FACTION AIDE ADDRESS CONFLICT, LIBYAN ROLE

LD121611 Paris LE MONDE in French 9-10 Nov 80 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's 'Islamic Legionaries' Apparently Taking Part in Ndjamnea Fighting"]

[Text] The extension of Libyan intervention in Chad is considered to be "very worrying" in Paris where, during the debate on his department's budget Friday, 7 November, Cooperation Minister Robert Galley confirmed that Tripoli army units whose presence had been reported in the north of the country have "moved southward" and that elements of the Islamic legion formed by Colonel al-Qadhdhafi are taking part in the fighting in Ndjamena alongside President Goukouni's forces.

Lieutenant Colonel Kamougue, National Unity Transition Government [GUNT] vice president, at present on a brief visit to Paris, said that the fighting in Chad has claimed 5,000 to 6,000 victims since March when hostilities were resumed.

Mr Galley, speaking in the debate late Friday afternoon, stated in particular: "It is very clear that Libyan Army units have moved southward. Until a few days ago he did not know very much about that movement since there are no longer any French observers in northern Chad. However, some elements who seem to belong to the Libyan Islamic legion have appeared in the Ndjamena battle theater, and that is extremely worrying. I can neither confirm nor deny the figure of 2,000 Libyan fighters put forward by some press organs. We only have the observations of several dozen French citizens still living in the southern part of the country, and that is not enough to make an assessment. At present the major question is what attitude the OAU will take."

For his part Lieutenant Colonel Kamougue, GUNT vice president, admitted that the development in the military situation is due to the Libyan intervention. However, he refused to reveal the extent of the aid granted by Tripoli, merely stating: "It is possible that Libyan equipment has been supplied to us and given the nature of this highly sophisticated equipment it is possible Libyan personnel have been placed at the Chad Government's disposal. That is a normal situation...."

Lieutenant Colonel Kamougue justified the Libyan intervention: "We are facing problems, a rebellion," he said, "and since France has adopted a neutral position and the Western countries remain indifferent, the Chadian Government was forced to knock on all doors, even the devil's door."

Referring to the ravages of the civil war the Chadian vice president said it is terrible that since last March there have been "possibly 5,000 or 6,000 victims and I think that is an underestimate." Referring to FAN Chief Hissein Habre, he said that his "physical elimination" is necessary "otherwise he is likely to stir up new rebellions in Chad."

At a press conference which he gave in Dakar Friday Hissein Habre's envoy Ahmat Mahamat Saleh, FAN foreign relations commissioner, stated: "Hissein Habre's FAN are not at present fighting President Goukouni Oueddei's forces in northern Chad but the regular Libyan Army." Mahamat Saleh said that more than 3,000 Libyans, backed by tanks and aircraft, "invaded" Chad 19 October "at the urgent request" of Goukouni Oueddei. He added that some 100 Libyan soldiers have already been killed in the fighting. Hissein Habre's special envoy showed photographs of captured Libyan soldiers and military equipment which has been seized (RPG-7-type surface-to-surface missiles, 16-mm shells and Soviet-made munitions).

According to Mahamat Saleh the FAN are still in control of almost all of Ndjamena, aside from the Farcha zone and the southern suburbs where fierce fighting is still going on. In addition he stated: "We have irrefutable proof that Benin is directly involved in the fighting. It is acting as a judge in its own case." Mr Saleh asserted that "2,000 Beninese soldiers are at present being trained in Libya and Beninese leaders have given wholehearted support to Goukouni."

Finally the FAN foreign relations commissioner denounced "French interference" and accused Paris of trying to divide Chad. In this connection he stressed the financial aid which France has given to the southern half of the country, the transfer of France's consulate general to the city of Mondo in the south and plans to transfer the central bank's head office to that city.

Commenting on Libya's attitude in the civil war, the Senegalese daily LE SOLEIL said of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi Friday: "It is a grand colonialist-conqueror, drunk with racist prejudices, that made a tour of inspection in Chad, thereby giving additional proof of his plan to subjugate the Sahel's free peoples."

In Lome the Chadian faction leaders Goukouni Oueddei and Hissein Habre did not sign the document drawn up by the OAU subcommittee on Chad. The subcommittee delegation (Benin, Togo, Guinea and the Congo), which left Lome last Sunday for the Chadian capital, was unable to meet either Goukouni or Habre "owing to lack of last-minute coordination," according to the official communique published in Lome Friday.

Kamougue Interview

AB141201 Paris LE CONTINENT in French 12 Nov 80 p, 2

[Exclusive interview of Chadian Vice President Abdelkader Kamougue in Paris--date of interview not given]

[Test] [Question] Once again, Chad is the topic of the moment. Is there a peaceful solution to the conflict in which you and President Goukouni Oueddei are opposed to Hissein Habre.

[Answer] You should put this question to the head of state who represents all of us. As for me, I think that despite the efforts made within the framework of national reconciliation to bring Hissein Habre back to Ndjamena, the latter has tried every means to mobilize certain communities to help him seize power But the Chadian problem is not a relgious one. It is a problem of misunderstanding between persons. It is not a question of ideological or political differences.

We sincerely think that Chad will never find peace with Hissein Habre in the government. It will never be possible to govern with Hissein Habre. He wants to become the head of state and govern alone. We must let democracy prevail in Chad and Hissein Habre will never succeed in a democratic election. Therefore, the solution can only be a military one; the solution is to remove the gangrene and the gangrene is Hissein Habre. I call on my brothers of the FAN [Armed Forces of the North], who have followed this irresponsible person up till now to join us and leave their leader alone to continue his venture of criminal destruction.

[Question] In which form do you think Chad can survive as a state?

[Answer] We should all admit that our desire to build a unified and centralized Chad has failed. Another solution could be a federation. We believe this would constitute a serious danger because some of our neighbors will unfailingly try to draw away the regions with which they have affinities. This would result in the total dismantling of our country. Secession, which we have always rejected, would rapidly result in the destruction of the Chadian state. For us, the only solution which can be envisaged in the near future will be the creation of a unified but decentralized state, giving each of the regions the possibility to develop at its own pace. The southern region has been accused of having monopolized power for 19 years. We are no longer after power; we want to restore peace to the country. Our statement is based on established facts: Since 1978, the BET (Borkou, Ennedi and Tibesti) have not taken part in the central government. Since 1979, each region has lived in a kind of economic self-sufficiency. These are the facts. Without putting into question the unity of Chad, the political authorities should have the courage to set up a kind of organization which will give the population of each region the responsibility of insuring its development.

[Question] You are coming from Cairo. What was the aim of this visit?

[Answer] It has been stated that Egypt has delivered materials to Hissein Habre via Sudan. The Egyptian authorities with whom I talked assured me that Egypt does not intend to intervene in Chad in any way, either by sending materials or in any other way.

[Question] You met the minister of cooperation during your stay in Paris. What was the aim?

[Answer] As you know, there are many hundreds of Frenchmen now living in southern Chad. These are employees of the various companies which still continue their economic activities. But this economic life that we want to maintain threatens to disappear due to lack of means and lack of banking institutions. We renewed our demand for the opening of a banking establishment in the south to avoid total suffocation of our region.

[Question] What do the French authorities think about the presence of Libyan troops on Chadian soil?

[Answer] The position of the French authorities concerning the Chadian conflict is this: They want to maintain strict neutrality.

[Question] Do you think that the presence of Libya has modified the root of the problem?

[Answer] Well yes, but this does not seem to cause any particular reaction here.

[Question] Why did your government ask for the intervention of al-Qadhdhafi's troops?

[Answer] Since the time of Tombalbaye, Chad has always asked for French assistance. After having knocked on all doors, we are now obliged to knock on the door of the devil. You see, we want to finish with Hissein Habre and we have to make sacrifices. Once this problem is solved, we will think about the sort of relations Chad should have with Libya.

GHANA

GOVERNMENT EXPELS STAFF OF LIBYAN EMBASSY IN ACCRA

AB171846 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] The Government of Ghana has decided that in the interest of maintaining the level of friendship between Ghana and Libya, the entire staff of the Libyan Embassy should leave Ghana within 48 hours. Here is the full statement issued this evening:

The minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Ghana recalls that in furtherance of the desire by the governments of Ghana and of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah to strengthen relations between the two countries, the Government of Ghana in 1979 agreed to a Libyan request to establish its diplomatic mission in Ghana. It has been the intention of the Government of Ghana to reciprocate this gesture as soon as the economic circumstances of Ghana permit it.

The Government of Ghana has noted with regret that contrary to expectation, the activities of the staff of the Libyan Embassy in Accra have consistently been incompatible with their status as diplomatic agents. More regrettably, these activities have been at variance with the spirit of mutual trust and confidence which should normally govern the relations between friendly African states.

The Government of Ghana has therefore decided that, in the interest of maintaining the level of friendship between Ghana and Libya, the entire staff of the Libyan Embassy should leave Ghana within 48 hours.

The Government of Ghana wishes to express the hope that this decision will not mar the relations between our two countries. Ghana, for its part, pledges its continued friendship for the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

LEGISLATORS, MEDIA COMMENT ON CABINET RESHUFFLE

AB141934 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 Nov 80

[Text] The leader of the majority party in parliament, Mr Fitih, has expressed the hope that the cabinet reshuffle would go a long way to speed up the country's development. Speaking to the press at Parliament House, he said it was done in good faith and the changes were effected without malice. Mr Fitih observed that in some cases the new assignment of some ministers may be considered as demotion but it is the government's view that they should be put in areas where they should serve the nation better. Mr Fitih added that the need for regional balance was also taken into consideration in the exercise.

The FPF [Popular Front Party] parliamentary leader, Mr Odoi-Sykes, has also commented on the reshuffle. In an interview with the GNA [Ghana news agency], he described it as inadequate and a mere window-dressing exercise. Mr Odoi-Sykes said he is not advocating that particular ministers should be dropped from the cabinet but the impression which members of parliament gathered from the debate on the issue is that the government should drop some ministers who have proved inefficient.

Commentary on Changes

AB142139 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 14 Nov 80

[Station commentary]

[Text] The cabinet reshuffle announced last night by the president, Dr Hilla Limann, must have come to many Ghanaians as a most welcome piece of news. At this early stage, it is a tribute to the president's [word indistinct] that he refrained from any earth-shaking changes and confined himself only to shifting some ministers.

For quite some time now, pressure had been mounting on the president to reshuffle his cabinet and when the leading members of the ruling People's National Party put the weight of their informed judgment behind these demands, it became clear that the president (?felt) a decisive action in this direction was required.

The reshuffle to the ordinary Ghanaian, therefore, is significant for two major reasons: One, the happy realization that the president reacts to public opinion and more importantly the fact that in the third republic, ministerial appointment is not a permanent condition and that those who prove unworthy of the trust reposed in them by the people will pay the fine. All over the world, heads of state and government have time and again resorted to cabinet reshuffles as a shock treatment for careless and indifferent ministers and as a means of injecting a new sense of duty into government officials.

One cannot deny that in our circumstances, the need for such action was necessary. When Dr Limann announced his cabinet a little over a year ago, many were impressed because of the fresh injection of new blood and self-made men into government. Many of the ministers had behind them distinguished careers in their professional fields and the expectation of the public was that they would quite competently deliver the goods. Indeed, some of them did, but others, sadly enough, failed to realize the urgency of the Ghanaian situation and went about their duties as though these were ordinary times. Even more disturbing was that a good many of the ministers gave the impression that they assumed ministerial responsibilities without any clear-cut ideas of their own about how to solve their problems. The painful truth was that they became, as the first deputy majority leader pointed out, mere extensions of their principal secretaries.

The reshuffle should bring home forcefully to the ministers the bitter truth that they alone will ultimately be held responsible for their actions and the need for them to take full command of their ministries now should not be treated lightly. It is imperative now that they evolve their own policies and present them as credible alternatives to what had [word indistinct] in the past. It will be useful for them to have their own small and independent task forces capable of studying situations and formulating policies. The problem in Ghana now is that people are in such an impatient mood and want the results so fast that they will brook no plea about bureaucratic bottlenecks and we cannot blame them because government is there essentially to solve problems and not to explain them. Under the circumstances, it is up to ministers of state, who formulate and execute policies, to realize the urgency of the Ghanaian situation and strive to meet the desperate but legitimate aspirations of the people. Only this way can they ever hope to retain the confidence of the people.

Criticism by Paper

AB161330 Accra Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 16 Nov 80

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The ECHO takes a critical look at last week's cabinet reshuffle. It expresses the view that the reshuffle was not drastic enough. According to the ECHO, removing a minister from a particular ministry presupposes that all is not well with his ability to meet the challenges of his office. Therefore, sending such a minister to another ministry without any guarantee that he will perform better there will not solve the problem.

The paper is particularly not happy about the new position of the former minister of finance and economic planning, Dr Amon Nikoi. It says that there is no need for making him an economic adviser if the president finds it expedient to dispense with his services. The ECHO wonders whether, in his new position, Dr Amon Nikoi will be placed above the new minister of finance and economic planning. It also wonders whether the president will still have to consult with his economic adviser on matters decided by cabinet consensus. In the opinion of the paper, this is not only a duplication of function, but also a dilemma of having to vacillate between the advice of his cabinet on economic matters, on the one hand, and the advice of his economic adviser on the other. The ECHO admonishes the president not to invite such a dilemma in his work.

The ECHO reminds the president that a cabinet reshuffle is a presidential prerogative that must be used judiciously and effectively to weed out dead wood and sow discipline in the government.

GUINEA-BISSAU

TRAVELERS REPORT ARRIVAL OF SOVIET MILITARY ADVISERS

AB180707 Paris AFP in English 0646 GMT 18 Nov 80

[By Eric Makedonsky]

[Text] Dakar, Senegal, 18 Nov (AFP)--Eighty to 100 new Soviet military advisers arrived last week in Guinea-Bissau, where a revolutionary council headed by Premier Joao Bernardo Vieira deposed President Luis Cabral on Friday, European travellers arriving here from Bissau said yesterday.

The travellers said they had seen the advisers on Saturday in the September 24 Hotel, where the travellers had themselves been staying in Bissau, capital of the West African country.

Other sources had put the number of new advisers at 200, but these reports could not be confirmed, the travellers said.

They said three people had been killed in the coup, which had otherwise passed off in relative calm. Confirming previous reports, they named two of the dead as Security Director Antonio Buscardini and Otto Sachs, former minister and a leading member of the ruling PAIGC [African Independence Party of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde] party. They did not know the name of the third victim.

The travellers, who said foreigners had been well treated, told how the coup had been preceded by a minor riot on Friday morning. The riot had been triggered by rice shortages, they added.

The travellers said the new Soviet advisers had joined some 100 permanent Soviet technical advisers in Bissau. These experts, whose exact number could not be confirmed, worked on a joint fishing project, in bauxite prospecting and in health care, they added.

The Soviet Union was also the principle source of aid to the Guinea-Bissau army, which used Soviet weapons, the travellers said. These advisers worked in particular with the Bissau Air Force, they added.

The travellers told how on Friday evening they saw four tanks in the streets near their hotel. Two hours later, troops entered the hotel, announced that there has been a coup and had politely asked them to return to their rooms, they said.

A curfew was clamped down on Friday night and on Saturday and Sunday morning, only pedestrians were allowed out on the streets, they added. On Sunday afternoon, vehicles were once again authorized to travel around the city, they said.

The travellers also spoke of regular flights by Soviet-built MiG's above Bissau. These MiG's had been piloted by Bissau Guineans, they said. It was forbidden to travel from Bissau to the interior of the country without special permission, they added. The travellers also told how on Sunday, they saw a demonstration on the road to Bissau's Bissalanca Airport in honor of the arrival of the leader of the coup, General Vieira.

This, they said, suggested that the general might have been in the interior of the country at the time of the overthrow. The travellers said that the curfew remained in force in Bissau and that the borders were closed to all but those with special permission to leave.

The themselves arrived here yesterday on the first plane to reach Dakar from Bissau since the coup. The plane, they said, had been limited to officials from foreign delegations blocked there by the coup. Tourists, other foreigners and Guinea-Bissau nationals who had turned up at the airport hoping to catch the plane had not been allowed to leave, they added.

However, the Portuguese News Agency in Lisbon reported later in a dispatch from Bissau that Guinea-Bissau airports were reopened for internal and international air traffic.

Reliable reports reaching Lisbon indicated that deposed President Cabral, his wife and a year-old daughter were under house arrest in a government residence near the center of Bissau. The residence reportedly was guarded by armored vehicles at either end of the street.

All telephone and telex links between Dakar and Bissau remain cut off.

LIBERIA

DOE ANNOUNCES ECONOMIC AUSTERITY MEASURES 17 NOV

AB181044 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] The Liberian head of state, Master Sergeant Doe, has been speaking to the nation on a wide range of issues affecting the economy of the country. In a nation-wide broadcast today, Master Sergeant Doe said the country was facing serious financial difficulties and our appeals to our foreign friends for assistance have yielded limited results. As one of the means to reduce government expenditure and generate additional funds, Head of State Doe said:

[Begin recording] (?With immediate effect), there will be a total freeze on government hiring [words indistinct]. All employees of public corporations and all senior and managerial cadres who are sacked or who resign or leave their post for any reason whatsoever will not be replaced except in the most serious cases. [applause] [end recording]

The head of state also disclosed that government has decided to borrow from all salaried employees a certain portion of their annual income which, he said, will be repaid in a number of years with interest. As a result of this measure, all salaried employees in government (?concerns) and the private companies making....[sentence incomplete]

[Begin recording] People with $750 per month gross salary and above will be required to follow our example and save up to 2 months salary to be applied against the project of national savings bonds. All other Liberians earning less than $750 per month will be required to save 1 month salary to be similarly applied against the project of national savings bonds. [applause] [words indistinct] foreigners to encourage all non-Liberian friends both at home and abroad to subscribe to this new Liberian Government bond issue. [end recording]

In his major economic speech to the nation today, the Liberian head of state disclosed that the Federal Republic of Germany is prepared to make available to Liberia $25 million over the next 2 years. He said $15 million will be in the form of soft loans to be repaid in 20 years, while the remaining $10 million will be in the form of a grant. Master Sergeant Doe also disclosed that the Government of France has agreed to devise plans to finance the extension of the free port of Monrovia and the (Bristol) farm project in Sinoe County. The International Monetary Fund, IMF, has also agreed that it will stand by its commitment to the [word indistinct] Program approved for Liberia over the next 2 years, provided Liberia demonstrated sound financial management. Master Sergeant Doe, however, commended friendly countries and international financial institutions that continue to help Liberia to revitalize its economy, citing particularly the United States of America which, he said, has given the PRC [People's Redemption Council] Government more direct financial assistance than it gave to the previous administration during the whole of its last year in power.

DOE, GAMBIA'S JAWARA AGREE ON AREAS OF COOPERATION

AB161504 Monrovia Radio Elwa in English 1200 GMT 16 Nov 80

[Text] Liberia and the Republic of The Gambia have agreed to work together in the areas of economics, culture, social technical and other areas of mutual interest to the two countries. The agreement was contained in a joint communique signed by head of state, Master Sergeant Doe, and President Dawda Jawara of The Gambia yesterday morning at the State House in Banjul. On the subregional level, the two heads of state reaffirmed their commitment to promote regional economic cooperation, within the framework of the ECOWAS. Concerned about subregional cooperation, Master Sergeant Doe and President Jawara called on ECOWAS member states to implement without reservation its principles and provisions that they had endorsed. The two leaders also renewed their support toward the West African Rice Development Association, WARDA, and commended the organization for the research it is conducting for self-sufficiency in rice production in the West African subregion.

AFP Report

AB171018 Paris AFP in French 1139 GMT 16 Nov 80

[Text] Banjul, 16 Nov (AFP)--Gambia and Liberia have renewed their adherence to the sacred ideals of the charter of the OAU, the nonaligned movement and the United Nations, a joint communique published at the end of Liberian head of state, M Sgt Samuel K. Doe's working visit to The Gambia indicates. The text of the communique says further that the two heads of state noted with concern the failure of the North-South dialogue and deplored the fact that the 11th special session of the United Nations did not come to an agreement on the framework of a new order to govern global economic relations. The communique adds that the two heads of state appealed for an immediate cease-fire in Iran and Iraq and recommended the normalization of their relations through negotiations. Concerning the conflicts in Chad and in the Horn of Africa, the two heads of state called for the implementation of the appropriate OAU resolutions. After paying tribute to the independence of Zimbabwe and renewing their support for the South-West African People's organization (SWAPO), the two heads of state expressed their faith in the potentials of Africa as a continent, the communique adds.

Master Sergeant Samuel Doe and Sir Dawda Jawara also decided to reactivate the treaty of friendship and cooperation concluded between the two countries in 1974. The heads of state of The Gambia and Liberia finally reiterated their conviction that the satisfaction of certain minimum rights is a condition for the maintenance of peace and stability. The two heads of state condemned the use of subversion and destabilization of African governments as weapons of change and agreed to do all in their power to ensure that their respective countries are not used as bases for subversive activities against another member country of the OAU. The Liberian president returned to Monrovia on Saturday afternoon after a 2-day visit to The Gambia.

ANGOLA

MEMBERS OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY'S PERMANENT COMMISSION NAMED

LD141202 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0530 GMT 14 Nov 80 EA

[Text] The People's Assembly elected its permanent commission, composed of 25 deputies, in Luanda yesterday morning.

The permanent commission includes Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the party and the republic. It also includes 13 deputies who are members of the Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party.

The remaining 11 were proposed by the central committee. They include party, government and provincial officials. As their task embraces most of our activities, they will help to find rapid solutions to different problems.

The 11 who were proposed by the central committee and approved by the People's Assembly are Roberto de Almeida, minister of planning; Fernando Faustino Muteka, minister of transport and communications; Ismael Martins, minister of finance; Bento Ribeiro, minister of industry; Pedro van Dunen Loi, minister of power; Manuel Pacavira, minister of agriculture; Lopo do Nascimento, minister of foreign trade; Diogenes de Boavida, minister of justice; Afonso van Dunen Mbinda, central committee secretary for foreign relations; Santana Andre Pitra Petroff, Huambo Provincial commissioner; and Bernardo de Sousa, central committee secretary for the institution of people's power.

The election of the permanent commission of the People's Assembly was directed by Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and the People's Assembly, which is the supreme organ of state power.

MOZAMBIQUE

TALKS WITH GIAP-LED VIETNAMESE DELEGATION BEGIN

LD161912 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 16 Nov 80 EA

[Excerpt] High level talks began in Maputo this afternoon between the People's Republic of Mozambique and the SRV.

Speaking on behalf of the Mozambique delegation, Marcelino dos Santos, Frelimo Party Central Committee secretary for economic affairs, said that the talks would center on bilateral cooperation, with a view to consolidating the international socialist movement. Marcelino dos Santos further referred to the historic importance of Gen Vo Nguyen Giap's visit, saying that it constitutes an historic moment for the two peoples at this particular phase, when they are implementing the task of building socialism.

Replying, the member of the Political Bureau of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee and vice premier, referred to this moment when the two peoples are jointly studying the best way to cooperate in various fields.

SOVIET FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION LEAVES FOR HOME

LD081814 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 8 Nov 80 EA

[Text] The Soviet delegation which took part in the activities of Mozambique-USSR Friendship Week in Maputo left for home yesterday.

At a press conference held before the delegation's departure, the head of the delegation, (Yuriy Olenenko), said that the contacts he had had with AMASP [Mozambique Association for Friendship and Solidarity with Peoples] had enabled him to gauge the degree of sympathy and friendship which the Mozambique people have for the Soviet people. (Yuriy Olenenko) said that the forthcoming meeting between Presidents Samora Machel and Leonid Brezhnev will certainly constitute a major step toward consolidating relations between the two peoples. (Yuriy Olenenko), chairman of the committee for cinematography and minister of the film industry of the Soviet Socialist Republic of the Ukraine, was received in Maputo yesterday morning by Foreign Minister Joaquim Chissano. Talks between the delegations of AMASP and the Union of the Soviet Associations for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries ended yesterday. During the talks the two sides stressed the need to hold contacts on cooperation programs, which will consolidate even further the friendly relations existing between the Mozambique and Soviet peoples.

SOUTH AFRICA

FOREIGN MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE ON RETURN

LD171756 Johannesburg International Service in English 1300 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Johannesburg--The South African Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, says serious and complicated problems lie ahead before a settlement can be reached in South-West Africa. Speaking on his return home after talks with Western leaders, he said the possibility of a multiparty conference had been discussed intensively but there were problems with the agenda and the timetable for such a conference.

Further Report

LD171624 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, says South Africa should show the world that she is not afraid of sanctions. Speaking on his return home from talks with Western leaders, Mr Botha said that if he were faced with the choice of having a Marxist government come into power in South-West Africa through intimidation or of having to cope with sanctions, he would choose sanctions. Mr Botha gave a warning, however, that South Africa was in a position to retaliate. He also said there were other countries who would suffer greater damage than South Africa in the event of the imposition of sanctions. Mr Botha said the Western powers were now exerting a solid wall of intensive pressure against South Africa for a speedy independence settlement in South-West Africa. He had asked them to be patient because South-West Africans were fearful about events in Zimbabwe and the socioeconomic problems of other countries in Africa. Mr Botha said he had gained the impression that the West suspected South Africa of not being serious about implementation of the plan for an internationally acceptable solution to South-West Africa. South Africa would not be intimidated by this pressure. And Mr Botha gave a warning that pressure could in fact lead to negotiations breaking down. Mr Botha said the possibility of a multiparty conference had been discussed intensively and there had been broad western support for the conference and that all parties should be treated equally. But there had been differences about the agenda and timetable. It was for South-West African internal parties to decide on their own political and constitutional future, although South Africa would continue as adviser. Mr Botha said he would now consult the South-West African political parties before meeting the UN secretary general to enable Dr Waldheim to compile his report on the situation.

NINE CASES OF CHOLERA REPORTED IN EIKENHOF AREA

LD171418 Johannesburg International Service in English 0300 GMT 17 Nov 80

[Text] Nine people have now been admitted to hospital with cholera since the outbreak of the disease on a vegetable farm in the Eikenhof area south of Johannesburg last week. The chief director of health promotion, Dr (Howard Botha), says the number of cholera carriers increased from 7 to 17 this weekend. All carriers and people who were in contact with them are being treated with antibiotics. Farmworkers in the Eikenhof area have been immunized against the disease. A few more cases of cholera are expected, but the chances of the infection spreading to other areas are diminishing.

ZIMBABWE

MUZENDA DENOUNCES SOUTH AFRICAN 'AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS'

LD121130 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 12 Nov 80 CA

[Text] The deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Muzenda, says Zimbabwe believes in the policy of nonalignment without affiliation to any of the world's power blocs. Addressing a meeting of the National Affairs Association in Umtali Comrade Muzenda said Zimbabwe also advocates a policy of peaceful coexistence with its neighbours and seeks to establish mutually beneficial relations with all countries. In particular it seeks relationships with those countries which recognize the uniqueness of Zimbabwe's social, political and economic problems.

Comrade Muzenda said, however, he wishes to stress that Zimbabwe will only stretch its hand of friendship to those states that are friendly. He stated: We abhor states that engage in wholesale acts against us and recruit mercenaries for the purposes of destabilizing constitutionally elected governments. As an example he said the Pretoria regime's aggressive intentions are clearly evidenced by its interference in the internal affairs of Angola, Mozambique and Zambia. He said: Our prime minister has on a number of occasions demanded to know why the Pretoria regime has recruited thousands of Zimbabweans for military training in South Africa. Comrade Muzenda added that recent events in Zambia are a clear indication of the South African involvement in the promotion of internal strife in those countries it does not agree with ideologically. He said the Government of Zimbabwe is aware of the fact that Pretoria would prefer some of its stooges to govern this country.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH GHANA ESTABLISHED

LD141354 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 13 Nov 80 CA

[Text] Zimbabwe and Ghana today signed an agreement to establish diplomatic relations at high commission level. The agreement was signed by Zimbabwe's deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Muzenda, and a Ghanaian diplomat, Comrade Andrew (Afoh), in Milton Building, Salisbury. Comrade Muzenda praised Ghana for the role it played in the liberation of Zimbabwe. He also spoke highly about the late President Nkrumah of Ghana for his inspiration to other African states to fight for their independence. In reply, Comrade (Afoh) said his country is proud to be associated with the liberation of Zimbabwe and expressed the hope that the relationship between the two nations will spread to cover other spheres.

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